ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL



JULY 2024

Meditation From Light in Deepest Night: A Lenten Meditation Based on the Writings of Julian of Norwich By David L Miller

A reading from 2 Corinthians 1: As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been "Yes and No." For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not "Yes and No"; but in him it was always "Yes." For in him every one of God's promises is a "yes."

Christ, all love, you speak one word to us: Yes.



Yes, I am with you. Yes, I always will be. Yes, in deepest sorrow. Yes, when you have lost your way, your sight, yourself. Yes, when you don't

know what to do and when there is nothing you can do; Yes, today and tomorrow.

Yes, on this corner of my good earth and wherever your feet may take you. Yes, to the ends of the earth and the eternity of time. Yes, for you are never abandoned. You are forever the unforsaken, the beloved, a cradled child. Mine. And my word to you is singular: Yes.

My saints long before you clung to my "Yes" in circumstances unimaginable, amid joys inexpressible and griefs unbearable. And I was enough for them.

I was their "Yes," and ever I shall be for you.





Jim P.

July 7th- Ezekiel 2:1-5	July 14th Amos 7:7-15		
Psalm 123	Psalm 85:8-13	Psalm 85:8-13	
2 Corinthians 12:2	2-10 Ephesians 1:3-14	Ephesians 1:3-14	
Mark 6:1-13			
July 21st Jeremiah 23:1-6	July 28th 2 Kings 4:42-44		
Psalm 23	Psalm 14:10-18 2		
Ephesians 2:11-22	2 Ephesians 3:14-21		
Mark 6:30-34, 53-	3-56 John 6:1-21	John 6:1-21	
Counter	-FYI-		
July/August	-The Office will be closed July 4	th and 5th.	

-No Bible Study on Thursday July 4th.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Zoom Usher	Audio	Video
July 7th	Rae V	Karen C	Logan	Steve/Patrick	Steve R
July 14th	Sue M	Crish T	Lee L	Meredyth J	Steve R
July 21st	Kris E	Larry S	Meredyth J	Lee L	Steve R
July 28th	Priscilla B	Kurt R	Logan	Steve R	Patrick



The group meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, 5:30 p.m., for fellowship and discussion.

Grief Support July 22nd 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

A monthly gathering for folks who are grieving and would like to share prayers, stories and support for one another. Whatever your grief and wherever you are in the journey, you are invited to participate.

The Psalms — A Meditative Summer ZOOM Study



There are 150 Psalms. We will not study all of them! But, we will learn to faithfully approach and pray them.

When: The sessions began via ZOOM on Tuesday, May 21st at 7:30 pm and will continue weekly throughout the summer.

How: Your email is needed to send you study materials and the Zoom link.

FOR SIGN UP or MORE INFO: EMAIL Pr Neal: sneal1968@icloud.com

JULY BIRTHDAYS		
Daniel Mazan	07/02	
Noah Liming	07/03	
Alanna Cellan	07/06	
Erica Montano	07/11	
Karla Lux	07/15	
Claire Anderson	07/22	
Megan Barnes	07/22	
Jacob Enriquez	07/22	
Sylas Warriner	07/23	
Kathy Ferdig	07/24	
Barbara Willman	07/25	
Pete Ormson	07/29	

Crish Tippit





07/31



Development Committee

As you read this report, I hope you are enjoying what has been a hot start to summer and are able to enjoy summer activities with your family. With the increase in activities and travel, please remember to give thanks for your many blessings and to continue your giving, financial and otherwise to the church.

The following table is a summary of the church's financial results for the first four months of the year, which is provided for your review and to provide information about the church's financial position. As of the end of April the preschool showed a "gain" of \$871.

	YTD	YTD
	April '24	April '23
General Giving	\$88,216	\$79,624
Other revenue	\$26,552	\$21,806
Expenses	\$100,119	\$100,778
NET (Operating)	14,559	\$652

On a year-to-date basis, expenses show no increase when compared to last year. YTD General Giving is up \$8,592 (10.79%). During the month of April our expenses exceeded our revenue by \$2,251. We are thankful for these results and offer an enormous *thank you* to each of you for your financial support as well as your assistance with the ministries and programs of the church.

The Development committee is preparing for the Fall Appeal and is considering plans on how best to meet the future capital expenditures of the church.

If you have questions or would like assistance, please contact me (<u>jkruger01@comcast.net</u>) or Pastor Patrick.

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <u>2 Corinthians 9:7</u>

Jim Kruger on behalf of the Development Committee.



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

What do you think about when you read the words above? What do the words: "God's work" mean? Do you think about reading the Bible? Do you think about all the things he has given you? Or maybe you're scratching your head and asking yourself: "What is she getting at?"

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) celebrates God's Work Our Hands every year in the fall. But my question to you is: "don't we celebrate God's work every day?" Why choose just one day to celebrate? <u>The answer is we don't just celebrate on one</u> <u>Sunday of the year.</u> Our church, All Saints Lutheran Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico, celebrates "God's work" each and every day of the year!

So, what are you doing in your life to do God's Work? There are so many opportunities for you to help just here at church but outside our walls too! If you are interested in hearing more about where you can help, please sign the sheet in the entry to the church. A member of the Outreach/Advocacy/Rapid Response Committee will contact you to answer your questions.

Congratulations Pastor Kate! On the success of your dissertation. Prayers and thanksgiving to you from your All Saints Family.



It's Sabbatical & Renewal Time!

During her time away, Pastor Kristin will spend time traveling with her family in the United Kingdom, completing a mentorship in fused glass with a local artist, and engage in a silent retreat at Benet Hill Monastery in Colorado. We pray this time for her time is one of rest and fulfillment.

There are several opportunities planned for congregation renewal while Pastor Kristin is away and it is our hope that everyone will participate! The full calendar is below and prior to each activity, more detailed information will be available in the newsletter, but we want you to mark your calendar now so you don't miss out. Another article in this edition talks about June's planned activities.

- **July 13-** The Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell will lead a workshop on "How Lutheran's Interpret the Bible." Other congregations will be invited, included those of differing denominations, to explore the ways Lutherans think about scripture and it's meaning for life today.
- July 14- The Rev Dr. Mark Alen Powell will preach at morning worship.
- September 1-Congregation glass art project following worship. Working with a local artist, the congregation will help create a large mosaic that represents the spirit of All Saints that when complete will be mounted on the building.
- September 8-Congregational Lunch -A catered lunch will be provided to enjoy fellowship time and the opportunity to hear from Pastor Kristin about her sabbatical and from lay leaders about the renewal activities of the congregation.

Mark your calendars now and look for more information inside this issue and those to come!



JULY RENEWAL ACTIVITY!

Interpreting the Bible with Grace

Join us for a half-day conversation about the Bible with Rev. Dr. Mark Allan Powell! We'll talk about where the Bible comes from, how to interpret it in context, and how we are to understand the Bible for our own times. The session reflects on seven questions about Lutherans and the Bible. He does not prescribe "the Lutheran way" to read the Bible nor does he dismiss the way you may have come to understand the Bible. Instead Dr. Powell presents a variety of Lutheran perspectives for interpreting the Bible.

Dr. Powell was Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio until his retirement in 2018. He is editor of the *HarperCollins Bible Dictionary* and author of more than 100 articles and 35 books on the Bible and religion. He has also worked as a professional music critic, with more than 1000 published reviews in the fields of rock and pop music. The two fields of music criticism and religious scholarship come together in *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Christian Music*, his critical survey and analysis of artists in both the religious and mainstream markets who have produced faithoriented products.

Dr. Powell will also be preaching on Sunday, July 14.

When: Saturday, July 13, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Where: All Saints Lutheran Fellowship Hall
How: A Congregational Opportunity supported by Lilly Sabbatical
Who: All Are Welcome

RSVP to Krysta in the office by phone (505-898-3932) or email (<u>office@allsaintsabq.org</u>) by July 8th. Lunch is included. When you RSVP, please let Krysta know if you have any dietary needs.



ADVOCACY: GLOBAL REFUGE (formerly Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service) – Part 5 Welcoming and Sustaining Immigrant Communities in Albuquerque

For immigrants fleeing danger or deprivation, getting to the U.S. is only part of the challenge. What happens after they resettle in a community like Albuquerque?

Lutheran Family Services (LSF) Refugee and Asylee Resettlement: Our country operates the Refugee Resettlement Program through the U.S. Department of Human Services. Lutheran Family Services, Rocky Mountains—a Global Refuge affiliate--participates in this national humanitarian work. LFS in Albuquerque aids 1) refugees coming from camps in host countries, 2) asylees whose petitions have been granted, 3) Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders who have worked with the U.S. military or contractors abroad, and 4) humanitarian-parole individuals, brought to the U.S. on an urgent and temporary basis. <u>The U.S. Refugee</u> Resettlement Program – an Overview | The Administration for Children and Families (hhs.gov)

In recent years, many refugees and asylees in our city have come from Africa and Asia (e.g., the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Iraq). Some have spent years in refugee camps, such as those in Uganda or Turkey—two of the top host countries. LFS helps immigrants transition here, assuring that families receive short-term cash and medical assistance, ESL lessons, help finding jobs, and other federally mandated services.

All Saints, as a supporter of Lutheran Family Service, has donated household goods and helped clean apartments to prepare them for new families. Our quilters have donated their beautiful work. We have volunteered in ESL classes. We rejoice with the newcomers when they get jobs, sometimes in other immigrants' businesses or in service industries such as hotels. LFS also showcases Tres Hermanas Farms, operated by immigrants, and Golden Ladle Catering, started by Burmese refugees. For more, visit <u>Refugee & Asylee - Albuquerque | Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains | Human Services Agency in CO, NM, MT, UT (<u>Ifsrm.org</u>)</u>

Encuentro: Encuentro serves another immigrant community, people from Latin America who've known violence and poverty. If they've not been part of the federal Refugee Resettlement Program, they do not receive the benefits mentioned above. However, recognizing their gifts, Encuentro offers classes in ESL, computer and financial literacy, home health aide training, and small-business development. One joyous outcome is that recent graduates have started a home health aide business—an American Dream that benefits the immigrants and our city alike. For more, see <u>Mission & Model - Encuentro Nuevo Mexico (encuentronm.org)</u>

New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty (an Advocacy Partner with Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM): Finding housing and work in a new city are momentous steps on the journey to resettlement, but we, as advocates, are alert to points of vulnerability. The NM Center on Law and Poverty reports that "1 in 4 immigrant workers experience wage theft in New Mexico each year" (*2022-2023 Impact Statement*). Through a lawsuit, the Center has worked with the State to improve its processing of wage claims. For more information, visit <u>nmpovertylaw.org</u>

Next month, we'll look at other ways to advocate for just immigration policies and practices. Judy Messal



SUPPORT FOR FAMILY PROMISE IS ALIVE AND WELL AT ALL SAINTS

We have new activity and new volunteers joining the All Saints support of Family Promise. During a time when support and volunteers for this worthy organization has declined, Family Promise of Albuquerque has soldiered on and the very limited staff of 4 has persisted in their mission to house and support homeless families with children in our community. They have persisted through Covid, through losing the dream of having their own facility in which to continue and expand their program, through losing grants they were promised and through losing the regular support of volunteers to help them due to an aging population, increased distances to travel and the economy.

The program that we all became familiar with nearly 20 years ago when we, and up to 19 other congregations, housed up to 4 families at our churches four times a year ended when the Covid pandemic hit. Even through that difficult time, Family Promise of Albuquerque has persevered. They are currently housed in the small parsonage house at the Montgomery Church of Christ on Montgomery and Louisiana. Churches are still their biggest support with providing supplies and meals and assisting with donating household goods when families graduate from the program into independent housing. For the first 2 years of graduating into independent housing, Family Promise continues their involvement to help families succeed with sustaining their independence. All of this with only 4 dedicated staff working 24/7. The Men's Group at All Saints has recently expressed interest in more involvement with Family Promise and has volunteered to periodically deliver meals provided by members of All Saints to the families and host during the dinner period of 5-7pm. We have recently completed the first of these for 3 nights during the last week of June. Two members of the Men's Group picked up meals prepared by members of our congregation, delivered them to the families and stayed during dinner. The staff and 3 families with 4 teens & 3 young children welcomed them and the food and the men reported having enjoyable active evenings with the families. The Men's group also donated and set up a soccer net at the house which was a big hit and is much appreciated and enjoyed by the families.

As noted above, Family Promise is primarily dependent on volunteer support, not only for meals and supplies but also for monetary support. After many roadblocks and disappointments, they are still striving to acquire their own facility where they can not only house families and have the capability of having space needed to assist the families with counseling, social services etc. but also welcoming in volunteers who might assist with classes, tutoring and many other services. Family Promise hosts several fund raisers each year such as the very popular Sweet Jazz concert which we help to support but a big part of their support comes from individual and community involvement and donations.

We are still in the process of determining how this effort at continuing to provide and deliver more meals to Family Promise will continue and this primarily depends in individual congregational interest and support. Family Promise experiences fewer volunteers during the summer and especially on Saturdays. To continue, we need more people who are interested in periodically preparing a meal which would be picked up and delivered by members of the All Saints Men's Club. Larry Shy is the chair of the Men's Club and Karen Hyde is the coordinator for Family Promise. Anyone interested in participating on a periodic basis please contact either of us and watch for further notices of plans for this activity

A huge thank you goes out to this week's cooking teams who provided meals: Bob & Lucy Welch; Judy Messal and Karan Haynes; Vicki Easson and Karen Hyde and to the drivers and evening hosts: Larry Shy, Don Debelak, Frank Orton, Jim Rinde and the Men's Club for their initiation of this activity and their interest in continuing.

Prayer Requests



Virginia Antonetty: Zamirah, Yvellisse	Bob and Cheryl Klenner: Lisa Helsom	
Caunedo, Christian	Karol Lavalle: Ellen Saige, Steve Castorena	
Lucy Archamboult: Tom Anderson, Gina Tena & Family, Lynn, Jeannie & their families, Sam Moore & Family, Nina Trogdon, Peggy, Harris	Jon & Jan Jastram: Phyllis Jastram, Buzz, Daniel & David, Patty	
Family, Amye	Krugers: Jim & Joanne, Bob & Pat, Jon &	
Nicole Arguello: Liz Rodriguez & Family	Mikele, Molly Highwater, Dave & Liz, Fran Meitzen, Diane Mulder, Susan Wiederspan,	
Karen Cellan: Kevin & Ronda Stantz, Kris Roman, Kathy & Frank, Kathy Braun and	Patty	
Mark and Dave Walker	Kristin Schultz: Lynne Morrow	
Vicki Easson: Kim Kangus, Ash McCallum	Shelley Tackeuchi: Tammy	
Kathy Ferdig: Donn & Janet Franklin	Bob & Lucy Welch: Kim Welch, Family of	
Reils: Will Larson	Preston Lard	
Nanette Morton: Sandie Chapin	Mark & Denise Winn: Nigel Jones, Mitch and Val Winn, Ben Stanzell, Cathy Fillingim	
Priscilla: Barb &Dan	Thompson	
Karen Hyde: Carol Lang	VanDeMotters: Bud (Charles)	

All Saints Congregation Members

Jon Jastram
Jean Bernabo
Bryce Willman
Jerry Ferdig
Karen Hyde

Harriett Rothlisberger Bob Klenner Walter Stolte Julie LaHam Dawn Mace Betsy Mahoney

For requests, updates and changes contact the office at 505-898-3932 or office@allsaintsabq.org

Church Staff

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Congregation Council Officers

Denise Winn Lyndi Dittmer-Perry Megan Barnes Dan Mazan President Vice President Secretary Treasurer dwinn86@comcast.net lyndi@flyballoons.us megbeth84@yahoo.com (630) 297-3601

Congregation Council Members

Anne Carpenter Wilson, Tom Becker, Meredyth Jones Frank Orton, Megan Barnes, Fabian Enriquez Council Meeting Minutes and Financial Information can be found on the Council Bulletin Board or on the All Saints Lutheran Church Website.

Committee/Ministry Chairpersons

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Jim Kruger	Development	(505) 553-0818
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Rae VanDeMotter	OAR (Outreach, Advocacy and Rapid Response)	
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