



The Grapevine



God's Purpose at ASLC is to welcome and accept everyone, improving their lives by embodying Christ's love.

Volume 20, Issue 10

Mission: To be a family of faith, empowered by God, to proclaim Jesus Christ.

October 2017



Pr. Joshua W. Gyson

and the Prez says . . .

By: Paul Oldenburg

Last month a letter was left on the Altar. It was a thank you note to the congregation from a local family. It said, "Your kindness and love hasn't gone unnoticed." It went on to explain that the family had recently just moved to Lutz and found themselves with food insecurities. They were seeking help and found it in our "Free Little Pantry." Now, they say, "We just got our stuff on track and now others can be blessed as well."

All Saints has always reached out to help people, and I think that we have always done our best work when it comes to feeding the hungry. The year that All Saints was being formed (1985), we were already inventively reaching out to those with food insecurities in our community. We helped to establish Christian Social Services, who to this day runs a local food pantry. We still support them in our Annual Spending Plan, and with special fundraisers.

There was such a love for this ministry that the congregation of All Saints began looking for even more ways to help. This led to the development of the "Brown Bags" program, with which we send breakfast and lunch home with the students of "A Brighter Community" every Friday.

This passion for helping the most vulnerable in our community has most recently expanded to the development of the "Free Little Pantry" on the church's property. As you can see above, with mention of the thank you letter, this program too has become a success in reaching the most vulnerable people in our community.

In hopes of these programs continuing to flourish, I want to ask for your continued support. If you can volunteer hours or food to the food pantry at CSS, please let me know. I know that they are always looking for volunteers on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. If you can help pack Brown Bags and deliver them downtown, we too would love your help with that. We pack on Sundays after worship usually and drop the bags off on Thursdays. And if you would like to help support the "Free Little Pantry" please know that during the month of October that we are creating a "Mountain of Food" so that we can restock as needed. Just bring in non-perishable food items and toiletries, place them on the front of the altar and watch the mountain of blessings grow.

In conclusion, I truly believe that the food ministries of this congregation define us the best. We have always come here to be fed with Word and Sacrament, and in response we always seek to share with others in our most beloved ministries. In truth, I wonder how far our food ministries will grow and reach, and how many more people will be blessed and in turn bless others. May it be to God's glory.

See you in Church!

Pr. Josh

Fall has arrived - so that means we are back in full swing. Faith Formation Sunday School has started, youth and adult choirs have begun rehearsals and Pastor has a surprise for the youth (no adults) that is sure to be a B.L.A.S.T.!

I would like to thank all those who stopped by the church after the hurricane to help with some of the clean up and a big THANK YOU to Bruce Emberton who worked tirelessly to clean up the property.

Let us say a prayer of Thanksgiving to God for guiding us safely through Hurricane Irma. We may have had some damage to our own property but we are well ourselves. Let us also say a prayer for those who were not as fortunate with the storm, that God give them the strength to deal with the issues they are facing. Especially pray for the people of Puerto Rico who will be without electricity for a long time to come.

It is also time for all to prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve on the Mission Team. We have a lot of work to be done but as a team it's a breeze!

Peace,

Paul

On the Path with Hurricanes

By: **Melanie Werner**

Psalm 46: 1-3 – God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

We aren't promised a fairytale life. We know that hard times will come, that hurricanes will strike. With Hurricane Irma still fresh in my mind, I wrote this poem.

Howling winds drone
 Hunkered down with my own
 The fear of unknown
 This needs to be done.

Lights shining bright
 Power loss one more fright
 Prayers to get through the night
 Please, God make it done.

As the early dawn breaks
 To the silence I wake
 My first deep breath I take
 Be still, it is done.

I knew that whatever came we could/would deal with it, not alone, but with the help and support of God and God's hands; friends, family, neighbors. Our strength in time of need.

Psalm 46: 10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

YES! of America

By **Becki Forsell**

The 10th Annual "Super Hero" F.A.I.R. is on Saturday, October 7th at the All People's Life Center, 6105 E. Sligh Avenue from 10 am until 3 pm. Come dressed in your favorite super hero outfit and share with others the mission of All Saints. You are welcome to come whether its as a sponsor, vendor or participant as we find the "super powers" within all of us. Parking and admission are FREE!

Free Little Pantry

This ministry is already making an impact in our community for those who are food insecure or are struggling to make ends meet. It provides an option outside of the traditional pantries which generally run on limited hours and provide only food. Along with non-perishable food items, this pantry also contains personal hygiene products and baby supplies such as diapers and wipes. What a great addition this is to all the wonderful things C.S.S. is already doing in our community. Donations are needed to keep this ministry going. A receptacle will be available soon to place your items in. For the month of October, items can be placed on the "mountain" in front of the altar. Thank you!

Brown Bags

Now that the kids are back in school, we are packing 60 bags a week which cost almost \$100 per week. If you would like to make a donation for this ministry, please mark as Brown Bag on your envelope.

"These are all of our children. We will all profit or pay for whatever they become." - James Baldwin

Christian Social Services

The 11th Annual Benefit Auction will take place on Saturday, October 7th at 6:00 pm Holy Trinity Lutheran on Leonard Road. The cost is \$30 per ticket. There will be a silent auction and heavy refreshments. This is a great way to do some early Christmas shopping while benefiting a great organization.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for Me" (Matt. 25:40)

Bloodmobile

You will have the opportunity to donate blood on Sunday, October 15th from 9 am until 1 pm. Come give the gift of life!

Kitchen Shower Follow Up

Thank you to everyone who helped put together the list of items, shopped for the items, helped to clean the kitchen and arrange it into a workable order. Irma created a delay in completing the project but hopefully everything will be completed soon.

If while in the kitchen you discover something we may have missed that is needed, please let Nicole know so we can see if we can get that item(s). Also there will be a Dremel party soon to finish engraving the items in the kitchen. If you are interested in helping, please let Nicole know.

Mission Team Meeting

The Mission Team will meet on **third** Wednesday, October 18th at 7 pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the October Grapevine is Monday, October 16th.

Faith Formation Returns September 17th

Infant to Age 5—Nursery

A short Sunday school lesson, art project and play time!

Kindergarten to Grade 5—Classroom 1

Spark Sunday School Curriculum

Students will hear a kid-friendly version of the same readings we learn about in worship.

Grades 6 to 8 Confirmation—Upstairs Youth Room

Faith Inkubators—Come explore the New Testament with Anthony & Lindsay Williams

High School—Pastor Josh’s Office

Faith Lens—A Bible study that engages youth and young adults in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life.

Adults—Malivuk Hall

The curriculum is entitled “Adult Confirmation”
We will cover some very important and interesting topics!

These educational opportunities are open to all and our hope is through Christian education you will have a closer relationship with God and a greater understanding of your faith.

Deacon Continuing Education

October 23rd at 6:30 pm

We will be reading “Declaration on the Way” which will give you some wonderful insights into the current relationship between Lutherans and Roman Catholics. This should be a great discussion right before the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Wednesday Night Supper & Study

Our study of the Book of Revelation will continue through the first Wednesday in November. We will not meet on October 11th because of Synod Assembly and October 18th because of Mission Team. Please bring a dish to share at 6:30 pm and the study will begin at 7 pm followed by Holy Communion.

First Aid & CPR Classes

Two classes will be held on Monday, October 9th beginning at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$30 per class and includes being certified in AED administration. Please contact Marcia Greensfelder to sign up to participate.

Book Club

Join us on at Marcia Greensfelder's home on Friday, November 17th for a chicken lo mein dinner at 6:30 pm. After we eat, we will discuss Daughter of the Reformation by Mary Helene Rasmussen Jackson. It is a historical perspective of the life and times of the wife of Martin Luther, Catharina von Bora.

Please bring a side to share and your favorite beverages as we discuss the Luthers following the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Worship Time is 9:47 am

Acolyte: 10/1: Mackenzie Gyson. 10/8: Aaliyah Caynor. 10/15: Keller Gyson. 10/22: Jackson Kamp. 10/29: Mackenzie Gyson.

Altar Guild: Set-up: October 1 & 8: David and Jeanne Carlson. **October 15, 22 & 29:** Bruce Emberton and Volunteer. **Clean-Up: October 1 & 8:** Dorothy North and Ann Noya. **October 15, 22 & 29:** Brenda Schwarzkopf and Maureen Sherman.

Assisting Minister: October 1 & 8: Rick Kaiser. **October 15, 22 & 29:** Duncan Engel.

Lectors: 10/1: Sophie Thomas. **10/8:** Carol Sanderson. **10/15:** Bruce Emberton. **10/22:** Bob Sticklin. **10/28:** Savannah Stewart.

Crucifer: October 1 & 8: Cindy Kamp. **October 15:** Volunteer Needed. **October 22 & 29:** David Carlson.

Ushers: Pete Lacko, Paul Lunseth, James Shewbarran and John Stewart.

Tellers: Maxine Hiltbrand and Gwen Walkowiak.

Greeters: October 1 & 8: Bob Sticklin. **October 15, 22 & 29:** David Sticklin.

~ ~ ENABLERS ~ ~

New Members Received

New members will be received on Sunday, October 1st during worship. This event was rescheduled after church was cancelled due to the hurricane.

**Second Sunday “Oktoberfest” Meal
October 8th after Worship**

We will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in German style with an Oktoberfest Second Sunday Meal with brats and sauerkraut. A freewill offering will be taken to help with maintenance cost.

**B.L.A.S.T.—Bible Learning and Sharing Time
October 8th from 12 to 12:30 pm**

This is a new worship event just for children which will be held after the kids are done eating the second Sunday meal. The youth will meet with Pastor Josh in the sanctuary for a truly youth oriented worship experience.

Haunted Halloween Hayride

Come out to the Sticklin Farm in Dover on October 28th from 7 to 9 pm for a hauntingly good time and a few scary good surprises. Costumes are welcome but not required.

The evening will include a hayride and fellowship time. If you would like to be part of the scare-crew, please see David Sticklin. Interested in carpooling—please call the office.

Church Picnic

The church picnic has been rescheduled for Sunday, November 5th. This coincides with the 32nd Anniversary of All Saints giving us much reason to celebrate. Please bring a main item to grill, a side to share, comfortable chairs and outdoor games. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate this time and give us a beautiful fall day!

God’s Work ~ Our Hands Week-end

Our pre-arranged plans were cancelled because of the hurricane. However, many of us found ways to use our hands to do God’s Work by helping and even sheltering others. What an amazing way to be Christ in the world for others!

Music Practice

The Adult Music Group practices every week on Thursdays at 7 pm in the sanctuary. If you have been considering joining the music group, you are welcome!

The youth Christmas Program titled “How Lovely Are Your Branches” will be held on Sunday, December 10th during worship. To prepare, we will have practice for all our Kindergarten to 5th grade youth after Sunday school on October 1st, 15th and 29th, November 19th, and December 3rd, with pizza for lunch. The final practice will be on December 9th at 9 am.

**All Saints Sunday
November 5th**

This is a day to memorialize all those who have passed in the preceding twelve months. If you would like to add a name to the list, please see the sheet in the narthex.

ELCA Youth Gathering

Thank you to all who have supported us as we prepare for our trip to Houston next summer! Our service will be especially invaluable for storm recovery. We continue to be available for Rent-A-Teen projects, we'll be hosting the second-Sunday meal in February 2018, we have the baby photo project coming soon, and are working on a project to be held at Crystal River Preserve in the spring! There's also a top-secret project that will be revealed very soon! Keep your eyes peeled - you won't want to be an...ummm...victim (or, shall we say, a recipient!). Again, THANK YOU for all of your support! See Marcia if you would like to hire a rent-a-teen group or if you have other fundraising suggestions to support our trip.

All Saints Camping Week-end

All Saints will camp at Luther Springs on Veterans Day Weekend (November 10-12)! Join us in this idyllic setting as we camp, share fellowship, and do a service project together! We will have the opportunity to canoe, swim, do archery and possibly the challenge course while we are there! Plus worship in God's creation! Accommodations are motel-style rooms, bunkhouses, and tent/RV sites. Please see Marcia and sign up in the narthex.

We welcome all who are seeking God’s love and grace.

We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, differently-abled or anything that too often divides us.

Our unity is in Christ.

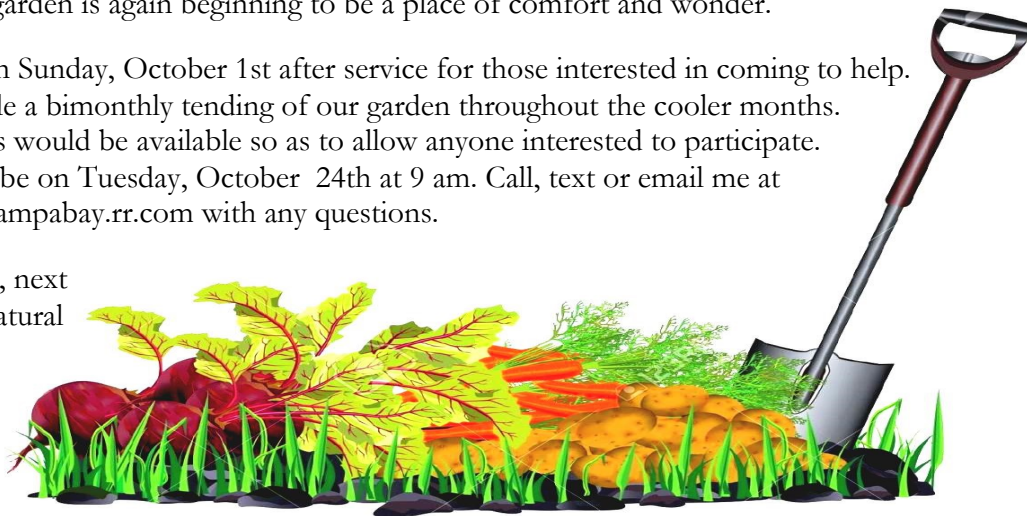
Green Team

By: Donna Bryant

The plan was to have the raised beds prepared for planting on September 9th. Irma had other ideas. It was a setback, but not a defeat. A big thank you to Rob and Sara who came out during the week to help dig out the herb garden out from the weeds. As the weather cools and the growing season for weeds wanes a bit and for vegetables begin to wax, the garden is again beginning to be a place of comfort and wonder.

Fall planting will take place on Sunday, October 1st after service for those interested in coming to help. We would also like to schedule a bimonthly tending of our garden throughout the cooler months. Week day and week-end dates would be available so as to allow anyone interested to participate. Our first tending session will be on Tuesday, October 24th at 9 am. Call, text or email me at 813-298-5795, nanadonna@tampabay.rr.com with any questions.

With all this talk about weeds, next month we will have tips on natural ways of killing weeds using common household products that won't leave any residue or have any harmful long-term effects.



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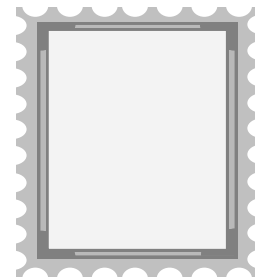
Mission Team

Pastor: Joshua Gyson
President: Paul Oldenburg
V President: Cindy Kamp
Secretary: Nicole Aiello
Treasurer: Anne Sylvester

Gayle Behrle Larry Bryant
David Carlson Trudy Heselton
Larry Hickman

Donation Options

- ♥ Sunday Offering Plate
- ♥ On-Line Banking
- ♥ Use the "Give" option on our website



Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month!