



The Grapevine



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

Volume 21, Issue 10

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

October 2018



Pr. Joshua W. Gyson

and the Prez says . . .

By: Paul Oldenburg

This past month has been rough. We had two meetings about ministry concerns: one about better utilizing our building and other assets, and one about how we are going to finance the ministries God is calling us to do (it has been a struggle as of late). It has been a particularly rough month for me as well, after suffering a heart attack and being hospitalized for two days.

Yes, it truly has been rough, but I am so excited now to share with you all how our working through these struggles is paying off for the ministry of All Saints and the Kingdom of God. The GOOD NEWS outweighs any bad news. (As is always true in Christ.) I am delighted to share it today!

As a congregation, we have stepped up to answer the needs of which we are now better aware. Actually, I am so happy to announce that we have 5! Count them **5! New Ministries**. From the Asset Mapping Retreat with the Synod Parish Deacons we now have a new ministry we are calling **"Winter Fest,"** it will be similar to our Fall Festival in the past, but different, too. If you would like to get involved, please talk with Mel, Duncan, and/or Dave Sticklin about lending a hand. Our second new ministry is **"Prayer Events,"** led by Donna, Marcia, Rob, and Bob; they have some wonderful ideas to enhance our community in prayer, their first event is coming up on the Second Sunday Meal in October. Ever wonder how we are going to use that fancy new kitchen for enhancing our ministry? There is also a new ministry we are calling **"Free Meal"** that will be thinking about using the kitchen for what it was built for, possibly bringing warm food to people and families in need in our community...maybe even A Brighter Community (wouldn't that be cool!). If you hear a calling to help with this, please talk to one of the ministry leaders, Julie, Cindy, and/or Dave Sanders. And what about if you just don't have much time during the week? We thought of that, too! And came up with a ministry called **"Walking in Solidarity;"** we will pick a few community charity/advocacy events that are near and dear to the members and simply show up and give our physical support. Much more about all of this, but if you have an idea or would like to help lead, please see Rick, Paul, and/or Sue as they are super excited to get out on the streets, proclaiming Jesus Christ's love for all. And one last new ministry, one that has organically grown out of the congregation responding to our need and desire to do ministry as a church, Dave Walkowiak and Andy, are heading it up and it is called **"Fun Raising,"** which will help to increase the congregational giving through fellowship events and fundraising...I thank them for stepping up and responding to our need for ministry together, searching out creative ways for us to be able to actually do what God is calling us to do in our community. IT'S A LOT, HUH!? What amazing things God is doing here!

Often in life, it seems like we suffer one thing after another. Too often the bad news and struggles seem to get the upper-hand. But (and yes that's a big but), not here at All Saints. God is leading us and guiding us and I thank God for us taking the time recently to better discern just who God is calling us to be. It might have been rough for some, God knows it almost killed me! But I am so very excited and re-energized today to witness your love and creativity being fostered and growing in new ways, reaching new people, and living into exactly who God has called us to be at All Saints.

From the Pastor continued on Page 2

Stewardship 1-2-3-4

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Luke 12:34)

Stewardship isn't a once a year thing. It's something we do every day, with every decision we make about how we spend money or how we use our time, because as the Bible verse above mentions, where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also.

For the past month, our focus was on sharing with the congregation that stewardship isn't supposed to be a hard thing. It is simply, that everything we have belongs to God and God ask that we be good stewards of managing those resources.

The stewardship emphasis, done once a year, is coming to a close. I know it is difficult to write down these commitments. Let's face it, we never know what life is going to throw our way. I know I was one who didn't put in a pledge card in the past. That was until I was elected to Church Council in my old church. It was then that I realized the church can't plan spending without an idea of what money is coming in.

It is a very exciting time to envision who we can be as the community of All Saints in 2019. If you have not turned in your pledge, please prayerfully consider completing one. Thank you!

Peace,

Paul

From the Pastor continued from Page 1

I thank all of our new ministry leaders for their hard work and dedication, and I hope that everybody will find the new ministry that God is calling them to here. There sure are a lot to choose from!

As always, you are in my prayers.

Blessings,

Pr. Josh

On the Path of Resources

By Melanie Werner

One of the ways to stay connected with our faith is having the right resources. Here are some great ones you may want to check out.

Weekly E-Spirit from the Synod: Click on this link www.fbsynod.com, then click on the blue button at the bottom that says “Newsletter—Sign Up Now”. You can also select other mailing list if interested.

Daily Email Devotions:

<http://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/default.aspx>

3 Minute Retreat Daily Online Prayer:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer>

Prayer Around the World:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle/>

Meals on Wheels



MOW is a private non-profit community organization that provides hot nutritious meals on weekdays to the elderly and homebound. Volunteers are needed to deliver a route in their own vehicle which takes about an hour. Drop off is between 10 am and 1 pm depending on location. If you would like to help, please visit www.MOWTampa.org and click the green Volunteer button or call (813) 238-8410 to get started!

YES! of America

The 11th Annual F.A.I.R. on Saturday, October 6th at All People's Life Center, 6105 E. Sligh Avenue in Tampa starts a very busy month for YES! YES! will host a Meet and Greet the Candidates on October 10th, the Disability Awareness Day at the downtown library on October 11th, the Community Baby Shower on October 12th, a week of Transportation Disadvantage Conference in Daytona, the Community Faith Picnic on October 20th, and finally the Best Buddies Walk on October 27th.

Also, during this time YES! will be setting up for Holiday Smiles at our office, 10210 Westgate Dr., starting October 22nd so we can start Santa's Workshop in November. And in December we will participate in the Great America Teach-In and have our big party for the Veterans on December 19th. There is a lot on our plate that you can be part of by donating hygiene, paper products (individually wrapped), and monetary donations to help with these outreaches and our “STARS” gift program. Thank you for your support.

Brown Bags

We were not able to set up the library in September as originally planned because of the decision to add a VPK classroom in the space original allocated for the library. A Brighter Community (ABC) has come up with a new location in the building. Once a new design is mapped out, we will be need help with book sorting and setup. Please let Anthony or Lindsay Williams know if you are interested.

We still need people willing to deliver the bags to ABC preschool, which is located in downtown Tampa, even if you are only able to do it occasionally, it would be a big help.

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

Christian Social Services

C.S.S. only does one fundraiser all year and it is their Annual Benefit Auction. This is the 12th year for the event which will be held on Saturday, October 6th at 6 pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran in Lutz. Bidding ends at 7:30 pm.

Tickets are \$30 each and include heavy hors d'oeuvres. Please call Judy Callan (813) 1496-6108 or Gwen Walkowiak (813) 963-0318 to reserve your tickets for this event.

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

Free Little Pantry

The free little pantry provides an option outside of traditional pantries which run on limited hours and provide only food. Along with non-perishable food, this pantry also contains personal hygiene products and baby supplies such as diapers and wipes. Please place donations in the barrel in Malivuk Hall.

Mission Team Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 10th at 7 pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the November Grapevine is Monday, October 15th.

Faith Formation

Our first individual classroom sessions have started and everything is going great! There is a place for everyone from infant to adult. Nursery age to Pre-K will be in the nursery where they will hear a Bible study and have coloring time. Kindergarten through 5th grade will be in Classroom 1, learning to connect what they hear in worship with their everyday lives. Those in grade 6 to 8 will participate in Confirmation upstairs in the youth room. High School student will meet in the sanctuary and hear how the Bible stories connect with real life stories in the here and now. Adults will meet in Malivuk Hall.

Also thank you to everyone who participated in the intergenerational classes and helped make cards. They have all been delivered and the recipients were very happy to receive them!

**Deacon Continuing Education Class
October 29th at 6:30 pm**

As part of the SPD Continuing Education we will explore the Gospel of Thomas. This independent gospel is an early Christian non-canonical sayings gospel that many scholars believe provides insight into the oral gospel traditions. This class is open to anyone interested in the topic. All those participating in the discussion must see Pastor Josh to get the homework assignment to be completed before the class.

**Wednesday Supper and Study
(except Second Wednesdays) at 6:30 pm**

Wednesday evenings begin with a potluck meal at 6:30 pm. This item can be homemade or store-bought on your way to church. Dinner is followed by the study at 7 pm.

Our study will look at the stories and roles of women in the Bible. It is easy to overlook the stories about women who witnessed in some fierce and fearless ways.

Each class is independent so you don't have to worry if you can't make every week, you can just come check one out! The study is followed by Communion. Please join us for this most interesting Bible study!

Music Notes

Adult choir practices are held every Thursday at 7:30 pm. If you are interested in singing with us, please speak with Marcia or just come to a practice. We'd love to have you!



The October youth music practices are the 7th and 21st after faith formation with pizza for lunch. Also all youth singing in church on Sunday, October 21st, should arrive early to practice at 9:20 am.

If you have any questions, about practice, or are interested in doing special music, please see Marcia Greensfelder.

Worship Time is 9:47 am

Acolyte: October 7: Jackson Kamp. October 14: Keller Gyson. October 21: Aaliyah Caynor. October 28: Emma Gyson.

Altar Guild: Set-up: October 7 & 14: Ben and Kaye High. October 21 & 28: Cindy Kamp. Clean-Up: October 7 & 14: Judy Callan and Anne Sylvester. October 21 & 28: Ilse Corydon and Trudy Heselton.

Assisting Minister: October 7 & 14: Cindy Kamp. October 21 & 28: Rick Kaiser.

Lectors: 10/7: Bob Sticklin. 10/14: Melanie Werner. 10/21: Craig Forsell. 10/28: Scott Harris.

Crucifer: October 7 & 14: Duncan Engel. October 21 & 28: Cindy Kamp.

Ushers: October 7 & 14: Pete Lacko, Paul Lunseth, James Shewbarran, and John Stewart. October 21 & 28: The Walkowiak and Williams Families.

Projector: 10/7: Julie Noya. 10/14: Prince/Josh Chellarajan. 10/21: Volunteer. 10/28: Anthony Williams.

Tellers: Maxine Hiltbrand and Rob Sabatini. (Volunteer needed for October 7th)

Greeters: October 7 & 14: David Sticklin. . October 21 & 28: The Moore Family.

Communion Bread: Ben and Kaye High.

Communion Wine: Cindy Kamp.

~ ~ ENABLERS ~ ~

**Second Sunday Meal
October 14th after Worship**

Many Christians and churches are rediscovering the ancient prayer practice of walking the labyrinth, a geometrically designed walking path leading to and from a central point. It is not a maze; you cannot get lost. There are no dead ends. The point is not disorientation, but orientation. They have been used for centuries to facilitate prayer and meditation.

Our Christian life can be described as a journey with God, bringing us ever closer in our relationship with God and with others. A prayer walk labyrinth provides a metaphor model of our Christian life journey as we face many turns we did not expect in our search for a quiet center. The path may begin by leading us deceptively toward the center, only to circle around it and then move away. We may meet others on the way that we can follow or lead. On reaching the center of the prayer labyrinth, we can rest, pray, or experience a new meaning to “being centered”.

During the Second Sunday Meal on October 14th, we will be unveiling the design for the labyrinth we would like to build in the shady area adjacent to the Memorial Garden. Currently ground cover is growing there. Stepping stones, planted in such a way that the mower will easily be able to travel over them, will form the path. The cost of the stepping stone is \$1.36 each. The Second Sunday meal will be provided by the Deacon Team coordinating the building of the Prayer Labyrinth and you will have the opportunity to contribute to its cost through a free-will offering.

Upon completion of our Prayer Labyrinth, it will be registered with the Labyrinth Society and anyone searching for a labyrinth will know of us.

**B.L.A.S.T. Worship
October 14th after the Meal**

Bible Learning and Sharing Time is for elementary age kids to experience worship in a truly youth oriented way. Once the youth are done eating the Second Sunday meal, they will join Pastor Josh in the sanctuary for worship.

Stewardship 1-2-3-4

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Luke 12:34

The Mission Team is happy to report we have received pledges from just under 50% of our giving units! This is an incredible number, but we still think it’s possible for the number to go even higher. There is still time for you to turn in your pledge cards before the Mission Team continues their work on the 2019 Spending Plan. Simply pick up a blank card from the table in the narthex, complete it, and put it in the stewardship box. Or, send an email to the church office with your pledge information. God is up to some great things in this congregation; we hope you can feel that too!



**Blessing of the Animals
October 13th at 10 am**

The Annual Blessing of the Animals is a wonderful way for us to recognize the importance of animals in our lives and to appreciate the companionship they provide. It is also a way to show our thanks for God’s beautiful creatures.

Make plans to attend with your pets, and invite all your pet loving friends to attend with you. All furry, spiky, slimy, feathery, friends, great and small, are welcome. All pets must be secured or on a leash.

**All Hallows’ Eve
October 26th at 6:30 pm**

Come join us at the church for an amazing evening of fun, education, and service for all ages. Yes, we do like to put as much into one evening as possible!

Pr. Josh will help us to gain a Lutheran understanding of Halloween, which was once known as All Hallows’ Eve. We will have a station set up to pack school kits for Lutheran World Relief, and we will have some fall games and activities that are sure to be fun for people of all ages. Costumes are welcome but not required to attend this fun-filled, educational, service event. Information regarding the evening meal will be provided closer to the gathering, so watch the bulletin for additional details.

Book Club



For our next Book Club, we will read The Mystery of Julia Episcopa by John I Rigoli and Diane Cummings. It's Book 1 of The Vatican Chronicles and has two intertwined stories set 2000 years ago AND in modern day. The date of the dinner and discussion will be revealed in the bulletin soon.

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.

Metastatic Breast Cancer 5K Fundraiser



Erica
& Izzy

If you haven't yet heard, Robin Bethune's daughter, Erica, has found another lump in her breast which appears to be malignant. That means her drugs are no longer keeping her Metastatic Breast Cancer suppressed. If it is rearing its ugly head again, so soon she will need to switch to another drug. And, there are only so many in the arsenal to attack her type of cancer.

In talking with some friends today we came up with the idea to do an actual 5K in Tampa in hopes of:

- 1) Making my goal or even surpassing it, and;
- 2) getting TONS of pix for Erica to see what a true army of supporters she has behind her.

Donations will go to METavivor, an organization founded by four women with metastatic breast cancer. Three of those four women have already passed away from this disease. 100% of your donations goes to research, and gives us the hope of a new drug or a new treatment that can at least make this a manageable diseases.

Please come join us and help us help Erica and others with MBC. It's important to know this is not a contest. Feel free to walk, run, push a stroller, walk your dog, roller skate, ride a bike, etc.

WHEN: Saturday, October 27, 2018

WHERE: Tampa Riverwalk starting at Armature Works

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

To register, or for those who can't make the walk but would like to make a donation, please click on this link:

<https://secure.metavivor.org/.../view/miles4meta.../robinbethune>

Thank you for your support and prayers!

The Eucharist and the Stranger—I'm Doing Well

Courtney documents her year in Mexico with the ELCA's YAGM Program

"*You sound like you're doing really well.*" I get this comment a lot when I talk to people about what life is like in Mexico and how I'm doing with a new family and new job, which is odd because I don't sugarcoat anything in these conversations. I'm quite honest about the fact that I have gotten lost on public transport twice now and almost cried both times. About how I got stuck on my roof once while hanging laundry and actually did cry. And how sometimes, I just can't understand what's going on because of my language barrier. There are days that I come home and I just want to lay in bed and let the exhaustion leave my body in whatever way it deems fit (sleeping, crying, mindlessly staring at the ceiling, etc.). So, the idea that I'm doing really well can seem a bit confusing at times.

But this past weekend, my family took me to see the Cacaxtla Archaeological Site in Tlaxcala. In the 70s, archaeologists discovered and carefully excavated this massive palace that contains beautifully preserved Mayan murals. As I think now about standing in the ruins of this extraordinary place, I remember seeing beautiful new bustling cities in the valleys right next to luscious green landscapes and then also these Mayan paintings from beyond my existence. You see, the 70s weren't that long ago and yet, this huge piece of history had remained quietly hidden among all these extraordinary things before its discovery. And maybe for the same reason, that's why I feel like I'm doing well in spite of all the moments of self-doubt and self-critique. For each mistake, there's an uncovering of growth and beauty too. Yeah, I got lost and came home and had a mini-meltdown, but the next day I laughed about it because "centro" and "central" are two very different things and it won't be a mistake I make twice.

I'm not failing here in Mexico, even when I feel like I am. While the language barrier has been tough on me at work, in a workshop, I was able to semi-successfully role-play helping a person in crisis. One of the leaders assured me afterwards that despite my limited Spanish, a lot can be accomplished just through body language and using gentle tones. Then I got to put this theory of having a relationship without the right words to the test by trying to figure out what a little 1.5-year-old boy at the shelter wanted from me. We sat and touched the ground with one finger and then tapped fingers together, held hands, got a cup of water, and then we swept the same four-foot by four-foot area for about 20 minutes. We didn't have an hour-long conversation about String Theory or our deepest fears and joys or the complicated political relationship between Mexico and the US. But I felt like maybe we chipped away just a little bit at this masterpiece inside of me somewhere. A masterpiece that God created with the intent that it be revealed in its own time. "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*" *Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Do I still have an irrational fear that by some freak chance I'm going to live here an entire year and never learn any more Spanish than I currently know? Or that I may never wake up and feel like things are normal again? Yeah, sometimes I do. But often in the same breath, I think about how I eventually got down from my roof intact and the joy I had in touching the ground with a single finger because that's what my little friend wanted to do. I think about sweet nights after I shower, watching Grey's Anatomy in Spanish with my family. I am doing pretty well here and I think that maybe those accompanying me on this journey are helping to excavate the good stuff hidden below the surface.

Additionally, I've made friends with every dog I've met. So obviously, I'm doing well.

<https://theeucharistandthestranger.wordpress.com/>

Changes to our Paper Recycling

As many of you know, we had a mixed paper recycling bin in the back of the parking lot for many, many years. Over time, the amount we received from the company in payment for that paper began to gradually decrease.

We recently received a letter from the company that said they had reached a point that it cost more to pick up the recycling than they were able to get for it and that they would need to begin charging a monthly fee for pick it up. This is not a cost that we anticipated, nor was it in our Spending Plan, so they came and picked up the dumpster.

We would still like to continue to recycle the paper used in our church and are looking for a couple people who have the large recycling cans at home that don't get filled to the top, who would be willing to transport paper and cardboard from the church to their home for recycling.

Please call the church office if you are interested. Thank you!



5315 Van Dyke Rd
Lutz, FL 33558

Office: (813) 963-0969

www.allsaintstampa.org

PastorJosh@allsaintstampa.org

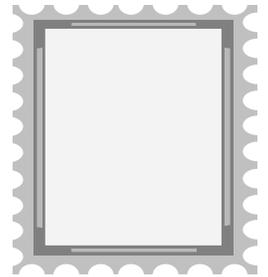
office@allsaintstampa.org

Mission Team

Pastor:	Joshua Gyson
President:	Paul Oldenburg
V President:	Cindy Kamp
Secretary:	Nicole Aiello
Treasurer:	Anne Sylvester
Emma Brown	Larry Bryant
Larry Hickman	Heidi Lacko
Rob Sabatini	Anthony Williams

Donation Options

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



Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month!