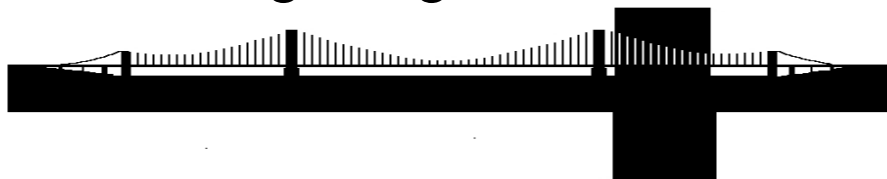


Building Bridges To God



EQUIPPING
THE
SAINTS

Through the Cross of Christ

The Newsletter Ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church

August 2013

Summer Music Camp

August 7 - 10

5:00 pm—7:00 pm

See Pastor Rich if you'd like to help in any way.



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August 11

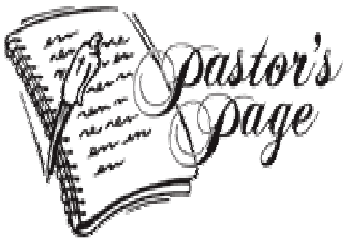
Please join us after
Worship for coffee and
fellowship.

Neighborhood Party!

September 8, Noon -2:00

Mark your calendar!





What Jesus *Didn't* Say

AUGUST 2013

Remember the “WWJD” bracelets from a few years back? “*What Would Jesus Do?*” The point (as I understood it) was to get people *thinking* about what *their* actions might be, given their identification with Jesus.

Maybe it's time for a variation on that bracelet theme. “*What Would Jesus Say?*”

What would Jesus say about...

- Nuclear weapons? (Since they hadn't yet cracked the atom back then, what do you think?)
- Abortion? (Here you've got to *extrapolate* what Jesus might have said, based on his related words on life and death)
- Human trafficking (Slavery was commonplace back then, but Jesus never issued a statement condemning it)
- Climate change? (Wow; did Jesus ever comment on the weather?)
- Same-sex marriage? (Jesus didn't offer an opinion, but that option wasn't available back then)
- Reality TV (I don't believe he would have approved of much that passes for entertainment today...)
- Graphic & senseless violence in the movies (see above)
- Democracy (as opposed to other systems of governance)
- Racism (Jesus *did* interact with Samaritans, Gentiles, and people with skin color darker than his own – think of Simon of Cyrene, the man who helped him carry his cross).

Since we don't have the exact words of Jesus concerning these and other vital topics, it's up to Christians today to *discern* what he might have said, based on other relevant passages of scripture. Isn't this what preaching is all about...applying what Jesus *did* say to the world that didn't yet exist in his time?

Right now, given the racial outcries following the Zimmerman trial, I'm convinced that our nation and church needs to begin a serious conversation about race and racism. Maybe you disagree (you're entitled), but you're probably looking at the issue from a *white* perspective. Try stepping outside your race and culture, and view things from an African-American perspective. Virtually every person of color I've spoke with about this has something important to say about it. We owe them the chance to speak and be heard in our predominantly white society.

Want to get the dialog started? If you have internet access, you might want to read at least one blog: <http://themolinist.wordpress.com/2013/07/14/an-open-letter-to-whites-about-the-black-community-and-the-trayvon-martin-case/>

+ Pastor Rich

**ECUMENICAL BEREAVEMENT
SUPPORT GROUP**
meets Tuesday, August 6
from 3:00 - 4:30 pm at
St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Parish

Look to bulletin board for details.



Vacation Days for Carole
August 13 ~ 21

We're taking a family vacation before dropping our daughter off at College on the 21st! (Wish me luck on that day, because I'm going to need that *and a box of tissues!!*)

Would anyone be interested in answering the office phones for me on these days from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.? Please let me know if you'd like to help.

Thanks,
Carole



Pastor Rich and Sue will be at the cabin from August 16 through the 21st. Rev. Julie Beitelschees will preach on Sunday, August 18.



NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY!

It's time to start thinking about our annual invitation to our neighbors, to come and party with us! Please mark your calendars, for SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, noon until 2. Watch for details to follow.

STRATEGIC PLANNING BEGINS

An ad-hoc group of members has begun meeting to discuss how we at All Saints might focus on our future, so we can move into it with a positive plan. This is something we've talked about for several years. Participants include *Norm Merkel, Bill Reber, Donnajean Stockmaster, Amy Merkel, Bob Krueger, Rose Thomson, Roger Meyer (current Council and Congregational President), Pam Hershberger, Ted Beitelschees, and Pastor Rich*. We'll keep you posted. For now, keep this group in your prayers. Thanks!

SUMMER SINGING CAMP READY TO GO!

Finally...we're ready to sing! Mark August 7 to 10 on your calendar - those are the dates for children 5 through 12 to meet at church (5-7 pm each evening) for singing instruction, games, food and fun!

Our song leader this year is Michael Espinosa, a student at BGSU. Michael is studying to be a music teacher; he plays the guitar, and he's working this summer for the YMCA in Perrysburg, doing pretty much what we're asking him to do at All Saints.



Huge thanks to Kathy Yarger, who has volunteered to line up others to provide a meal for about 20 people each evening. We could still use some help with kid's games and activities. Pastor will do a simple but *active* Bible study with the kids each evening. Here's how you can help: If you are aware of children ages 5 - 12 in your neighborhood (how about your grandkids?), you could invite them to register. Tell their parents to phone the church; we'll take it from there. Oh, cost is again \$5 per child - what a deal!

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Dear Friends~

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and support during my recent illness and visit to the hospital.

Thanks especially to Pastor Rich for your hospital visits. I rested, behaved and took my meds as directed and I am feeling much better and stronger each day. Thanks again ~ those prayers are working!!

Hugzzzzz ~ Luanne Okoneski



To: All Saints Lutheran Church  
(Pastor and Members)

Thanks very much to all of you for your hospital visits, get-well cards, prayers and pleasant thoughts about me while I was hospitalized. Many thanks also to those who helped Dorothy during this time.

**God bless you "real good"!!**

James A. Henderson  
Turning 70 on 7-27-13 !!



# 2013



| Sunday                                                                              | Monday                                                                     | Tuesday                                                                      | Wednesday                                                 | Thursday                                                     | Friday                                  | Saturday                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                     |                                                                            |                                                                              |                                                           | <b>1</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)                                 | <b>2</b>                                | <b>3</b>                                                            |
| <b>4</b><br>8:30 Prayer<br>9:00 Adult Forum<br>10:00 Worship                        | <b>5</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)                                               | <b>6</b><br>8:30 AA (open)                                                   | <b>7</b><br>5-7 Song Camp<br>8:30 AA (open)               | <b>8</b><br>5-7 Song Camp<br>8:30 AA (closed)                | <b>9</b><br>5-7 Song Camp               | <b>10</b><br>5-7 Song Camp                                          |
| <b>11</b><br>8:30 Prayer<br>9:00 Adult Forum<br>10:00 Worship<br><b>Coffee Hour</b> | <b>12</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)                                              | <b>13</b><br>7:00 Property Mtg.<br>8:30 AA (open)<br>Carole Vac.             | <b>14</b><br>8:30 AA (open)<br>Carole Vac.                | <b>15</b><br>7:00 Council<br>8:30 AA (closed)<br>Carole Vac. | <b>16</b><br>Pastor Vac.<br>Carole Vac. | <b>17</b>                                                           |
| <b>18</b><br>8:30 Prayer<br>9:00 Adult Forum<br>10:00 Worship                       | <b>19</b><br>7:00 S.O.S.<br>8:30 AA (closed)<br>Carole Vac.<br>Pastor Vac. | <b>20</b><br>7:00 W & M Mtg.<br>8:30 AA (open)<br>Carole Vac.<br>Pastor Vac. | <b>21</b><br>8:30 AA (open)<br>Carole Vac.<br>Pastor Vac. | <b>22</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)<br>Carole Vac.                 | <b>23</b><br>Carole Vac.                | <b>24</b><br>2-6 This Far<br>By Faith @<br>Faith Lutheran<br>Church |
| <b>25</b><br>8:30 Prayer<br>9:00 Adult Forum<br>10:00 Worship                       | <b>26</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)                                              | <b>27</b><br>6:00 Ryewyck<br>Blockwatch<br>8:30 AA (open)                    | <b>28</b><br>8:30 AA (open)                               | <b>29</b><br>8:30 AA (closed)                                | <b>30</b>                               | <b>31</b><br>9:00 Men's<br>Group                                    |

# AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

## READER

Aug. 4 Donna Jean Stockmaster  
Aug. 11 Rick McCann  
Aug. 18 Bob Krueger  
Aug. 25 Norm Merkel

## GREETERS

Rose Thomson  
Rick & Becky McCann  
Mary Lou Houle  
Rosa Linda Brown

## COMMUNION PREP/ASSISTANT

Aug. 4 Chris & Donna Jean Stockmaster  
Aug. 11 Tim & Amy Merkel  
Aug. 18 Mary Lou Houle & Peg Loehrke  
Aug. 25 Norm & Sue Merkel

MONTH  
August

## ALTAR

Bev Rose

## COUNTERS

Aug. 4 Rose Thomson & LaVerne Busddieker  
Aug. 11 Sue Merkel & Judy Reber  
Aug. 18 Ann Miller & Pat Toepfer  
Aug. 25 Mary Lou Houle & Janet Caskey

## OFFERING

Aug. 4 Judy Reber  
Aug. 11 Janet Caskey  
Aug. 18 Judy Grimes  
Aug. 25 Roger Meyer

## USHERS

Aug. 4 Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Aug. 11 Chris Stockmaster, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Aug. 18 Bill Reber, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Aug. 25 Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch

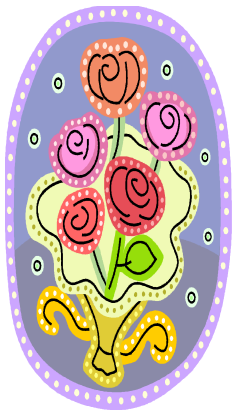


- 8/2 Izzy Merkel
- 8/3 Peggy Loehrke
- 8/4 Al Beitelschees
- 8/8 Dorothy Henderson
- 8/9 Diana Burkhardt  
Lynda Meyer
- 8/11 Norma Garn
- 8/14 Pam Hershberger  
Pastor Rich
- 8/25 Devotion Brown



- 8/9 Mike & Luanne Okoneski - 10 yrs
- 8/14 Norm & Sue Merkel - 47 yrs
- 8/31 Tim & Amy Merkel - 17 yrs

August Altar Flowers



- 4 Tim & Amy Merkel
- 11 Mike & Luanne Okoneski
- 18 Donna Urie
- 25 Pat Toepfer



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(419) 865-7701



*August*  
*2013*  
*Newsletter*