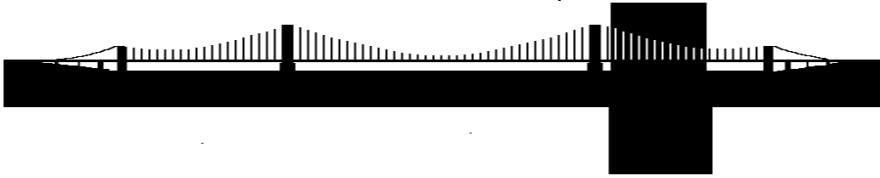


Building Bridges To God



Through the Cross of Christ

The Newsletter Ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church

EQUIPPING
THE
SAINTS

AUGUST 2015



Pastor Rich's Retirement Party

Sunday, August 30 after worship

RSVP with Carole by Aug. 23
Please join us!

In Honor of Reverend Richard Rentner

You have served the Lord with gladness – tirelessly,
faithfully, and with great compassion for His flock.
Your investment in the lives of others has truly made a
difference; You have given hope and encouragement to so many.

Now, as the day dawns on the next chapter in your life,
may God continue to richly bless you and watch over you,
may the God of peace grant you peace now and always.

With Great Affection and Gratitude,
Your All Saints Family

"Behold, I will do something new, Now it will spring forth..."
Bible Verse ~ Isaiah 43:19

Lunch will be catered... Memories will be shared ...
Special ministries and friendships remembered
Hugs and well wishes given from all!
Thank you Pastor Rich and Sue for all your special gifts,
ministries and most of all your friendship!
Best wishes to you both on this next chapter of your life!

It's hard to believe, but after all these years of writing newsletter articles, I've come to the *last one*. In the life of a pastor, after nearly four decades of writing articles, attending Council meetings, teaching classes, leading worship services...and doing all the other things pastor's do...an *end* to these things seems impossible. But it's time.

I promised a couple months ago to write about what Sue and I hope to do when I'm officially 'retired.' It's really pretty simple:

For a couple of months, I'll take the Synod's advice and rest up, do nothing 'church' related. But then, starting in late November or December, I anticipate doing some 'supply preaching.' That's when retired pastor's fill in on Sundays for other pastors who are on vacation or get sick. I expect to serve in a variety of congregations in Southeast Michigan Synod and Northwest Ohio Synod. In time I'd be open to teaching a few adult classes here and there, as needed.

Sue and I hope to spend a little more time at our cabin in SE Ohio. We haven't been able to get there as much as we had hoped; maybe that will change. There are projects at the cabin that need attention...as well as at our home in Tecumseh MI.

On my list of fun things to do, we've got a trip to North Carolina planned for October. And sometime in the next year or two, we plan on taking a road trip along what is left of the old 'Mother Road,' Route 66. Just for kicks, we'll drive our old 1975 Chevrolet Impala and pretend we're doing what so many families did on vacations 40 years ago. We'll circle home via Northern California, visiting our two daughters and families there, and visiting our son and family in Cheyenne, WY before heading home on interstate 80/90.

I doubt I'll get bored. There are countless books to read...new skills to learn (welding, and pen-and-ink drawing!)...and maybe even a book or two to write. And of course, I hope to spend some serious time just hanging out with Sue. She has made many sacrifices on my behalf over my years in ministry...it's time we spend some uninterrupted time together, enjoying each other's company!

There will be challenges ahead. One of them will be to find a church home where we'll fit in. Given the fact that our time here at All Saints has been absolutely wonderful, I'm having trouble imagining we'll ever find such a great congregation somewhere else.

While our relationship will change with my retirement, I want you to know that you'll always have a special place in my heart. I expect to see you from time to time (maybe a Drive-Thru Living Nativity, or Quilt Show...). We're going to keep our doctors in Toledo, so you know we'll be back in town on a regular basis! While I am not permitted (by church policy) to provide pastoral services to you after my leaving (your new pastor will serve you capably and gladly), there's nothing to keep us from having an occasional lunch or dinner together. I hope you'll keep in touch with me, and let me know what's happening in your life.

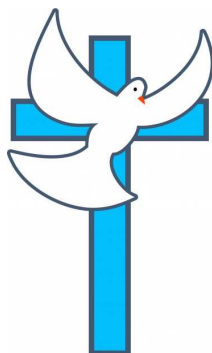
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Our church secretary, Carole, has been and will continue to be a good friend. She will serve you faithfully into the future, and Sue and I expect to stay in touch with her.

I'll say more on my last Sunday (Aug. 30), but my constant hope and prayer for All Saints is that God will continue to bless you with new faces and new 'saints' for the important ministry God has given this church to do. When a pastor leaves, there is normally a period of uncertainty and even fear, but as Jesus said to his followers so many times, "*Have no fear...be not afraid!*" As God has blessed this precious little church in the past, so God will continue to bless you in times to come. Trust God. Stay connected. Be patient as God opens new doors to you. And the peace of Christ will be yours. I promise!

In Christ,

+ *Pastor Rick*



"How Lutherans Interpret the Bible"

A new Sunday School class that started July 26 ~ Please join us!!

Mark Allan Powell, a Lutheran pastor and bible professor at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, in a discussion for laity about how Lutherans interpret the Bible.

Dr. Powell's insights on the Bible are shared through seven sessions on DVD and offer views for Bible studies and interpretations for multiple denominations of the Christian Faith.

The Seven Sessions:

Session 1: The Word of God

Session 2: What Lutherans Say About the Bible

Session 3: Where the Bible comes From

Session 4: Interpreting the Bible in Context

Session 5: Determining Right from Wrong

Session 6: The Many Meanings of the Bible

Session 7: Devotional Bible Reading

RISE UP!



The 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Detroit last month was a phenomenal success, with over 30,000 teen- and adult participants from all 50 states and the Caribbean. Thanks go to Amy Merkel and Sue Slater for doing a wonderful job of 'shepherding' our four teens (Izzy Merkel, Taylor Mominee, Devotion Brown, and Sam Merkel) through four days of learning, sharing, serving and growing in faith.

Thanks to you, the congregation, for donating about 1000 diapers.... part of a total donation of 1 million diapers....to assist low-income Detroit residents.

Our teen participants spoke on Sunday July 26 of their experience, and how it moved them. Thank you again to all who helped fund the Youth Gathering!

The ELCA National Youth Gathering happens every three years; in 2018 it will be held in Houston, TX. This would be the perfect time for All Saints to begin raising money to send some of our high school students to the next Gathering!

ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit by the numbers:

Proclaim Justice Days:

- 1 million diapers collected
- 1,425 backpacks distributed
- 3,200 vacant lots cleared of debris
- 319 vacant homes boarded
- 1,847 mural boards painted
- 36 urban gardens installed
- 99 picnic tables built
- 26 dumpsters filled
- 600 neighborhoods affected
- 607 units of whole blood collected (78.8 gal.)

Thanks to Lisa and Kinda for coordinating the efforts on the ground in Detroit.
#ELCA #RiseUpELCA





On July 19th we had guest speakers, Pastor Tim and Diane Sonnenberg, missionaries from Tanzania. We had a great response to their presentation and really appreciate their ministry!

A total of \$490.00 was sent to the N.W. Ohio Synod to the Sonnenberg acct. to help with their mission when they return to Tanzania in September.

Thank you to our members and Lady Saints for their generous donations for the Sonnenbergs. They were very grateful!

The following have volunteered to lead the younger kids (12 mos. and older) for 20 min's during Children's Church. Thank you!

Aug. 2 Jim Burkhardt

Aug. 9 Judy Mizer & Cindy Turner

Aug. 16 Carole Fletcher

Aug. 23 Sue Merkel

Aug. 30 Rosa Linda Brown



We'd appreciate it if we could get a teenager to help during this class too. One adult and one teenager is preferred, if not two adults.

VISIONARY WOMEN

Esther 4:15-17

A Series of FREE Workshops for Women

Wednesday mornings, beginning July 8 - Aug. 12, 9 -1:00 pm

Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Childcare Provided

Please see Rosa Linda Brown
or Anna Perrin for more details!



PLEASE MAKE THESE CHANGES IN YOUR DIRECTORIES:



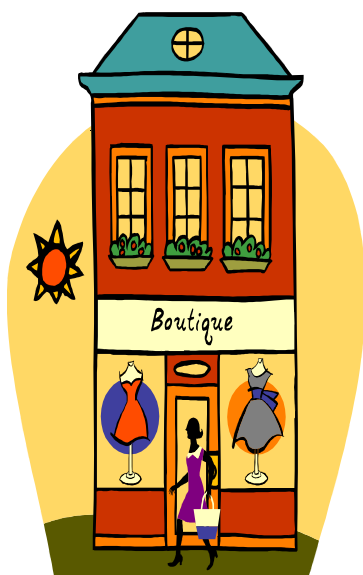
Norm and Sue Merkel email changed to: **normmerkel@gmail.com**

Carole Fletcher apt. # changed on address to: **Apt. #39**
So it should read 5123 Ryan Rd., **Apt. #39**, Toledo, OH 43614

Rosa Linda Brown phone number changed to: **(1) 419 984-0944**
*** for some reason you have to dial a (1) to have it go through even though it isn't long distance. She's working on getting that fixed.*

Nancy Klawitter's address no longer includes the Acada Unit.
So her address now should read:
Nancy Klawitter
Heartland of Waterville
8885 Browning Dr., Rm. #406
Waterville, OH 43566

*****For the new members who have not received a church directory,
I am working on getting those to you soon.
Thank you for your patience =)
Carole**



All Saints Quilt Show Boutique

As we did last year at our Quilt Show,
we'll be featuring "The Boutique".

The dates for the Quilt Show are Nov. 6 & 7, 2015!

Please save these items for resale ~
(everything in good condition please) purses, jewelry, scarves,
hats, books, "fancy" glassware.

~~~ No clothing or items in poor condition ~~~~

Bring them to church and place in box under coat rack. If you have any questions,
please call Diana Burkhardt at 419 866-8365 or Gretchen Schultz at 419 893-1097.



2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	3 8:30 AA (closed)	4 7:00 Hymn Selection meeting 8:30 AA (open)	5 9-1:00 Visionary Women Workshop 8:30 AA (open)	6 8:30 AA (closed)	7	8
9 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	10 8:30 AA (closed)	11 7:00 Property 8:30 AA (open)	12 9-1:00 Visionary Women Workshop 8:30 AA (open)	13 8:30 AA (closed)	14	15
16 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	17 7:00 S.O.S. 8:30 AA (closed)	18 6:30 meeting with Providence here at ASLC 8:30 AA (open)	19 10-12:00 Visionary Women Workshop Closing Ceremony 8:30 AA (open)	20 7:00 Council 8:30 AA (closed)	21	22
23 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	24 8:30 AA (closed)	25 8:30 AA (open)	26 8:30 AA (open)	27 8:30 AA (closed)	28	29 9:00 
30 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship Pastor's Retirement party after worship	31 8:30 AA (closed)					

AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

READER

Aug. 2 Peg Loehrke
Aug. 9 Gretchen Schultz
Aug. 16 Rex Yarger
Aug. 23 Rick McCann
Aug. 30 Barb Mounjie

GREETERS

Rosa Linda, Devyne & Devotion
Janet Caskey
Judy Mizer
Rick & Becky McCann
Judy Grimes

COMMUNION PREP/ASSISTANT

Aug. 2 Gretchen Schultz & Pam Hershberger
Aug. 9 Roger & Lynda Meyer
Aug. 16 Tim & Amy Merkel
Aug. 23 Sue Slater & Judy Grimes
Aug. 30 Ted & Julie Beitelschees

ALTAR

August Mary Lou Houle

COUNTERS

Aug. 2 Rose Thomson & LaVerne Busddieker
Aug. 9 Sue Merkel & Judy Reber
Aug. 16 Mary Lou Houle & Pat Toepfer
Aug. 23 Mary Lou Houle & Janet Caskey
Aug. 30 Rose Thomson & LaVerne Busddieker

OFFERING

Aug. 2 Judy Reber
Aug. 9 Chris Stockmaster
Aug. 16 Norm Merkel
Aug. 23 Rosa Linda Brown
Aug. 30 Julie Beitelschees

USHERS

Aug. 2 Chris Stockmaster, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch
Aug. 9 Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch
Aug. 16 Bill Reber, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch
Aug. 23 Chris Stockmaster, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch
Aug. 30 Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch

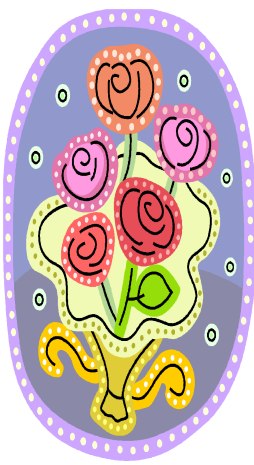


- 8/2 Isabelle Merkel
- 8/3 Peggy Loeharke
- 8/8 Dorthy Henderson
- 8/9 Diana Burkhardt
Lynda Meyer
- 8/14 Pam Hershberger
Pastor Rich
- 8/25 Devotion Brown

- 8/7 Kevin & Monica Roessler ~ 5 yrs
- 8/14 Norm & Sue Merkel ~ 49 yrs
- 8/31 Tim & Amy Merkel ~ 19 yrs

If we've missed your Birthday or Anniversary this month, please notify the office so we can correct our records.

August Altar Flowers



- 2** **Bev Rose**
- Dorthy Henderson**
- 9** **Cindy Turner**
- 16** **LaVerne Bussdieker**
- 23** **Rose Thomson**
- 30** **Judy Mizer**

All Saints Lutheran Church
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