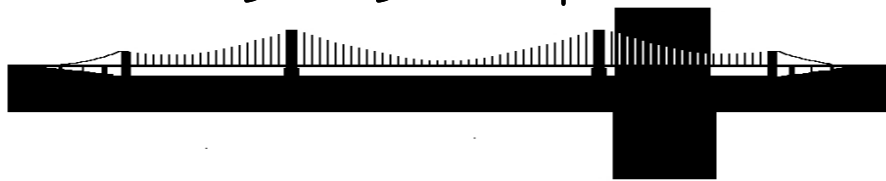


Building Bridges To God



EQUIPPING
THE
SAINTS

Through the Cross of Christ

The Newsletter Ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church

May 2014

This Month at All Saints ...

May 4 ~

Adult Forum starts a new class called
"Praying Jesus' Way"
Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

May 5~

Bible Study Resumes at 7:30 pm

May 11~ Mother's Day

This Sunday is also Coffee Hour which will be
hosted by the men of All Saints,
in honor of all the mothers.
Thanks Men!



May 26 ~ Memorial Day

Office will be closed
No Bible Study



'Birthing' New Believers

MAY 2014

Let's begin with the shared conviction that we all love All Saints and want to see this little church not only *survive* but also *thrive and grow* into the future. We can agree on that, right?

Lutherans in America have a long history of growing by *welcoming newcomers of the same ethnic heritage of those who came before*. In the past, we didn't have to give much thought to reaching out to those beyond our Scandinavian/German heritage. Problem is, it doesn't work that way anymore. Ethnic churches are a thing of the past.

We have a wonderful group of church members who are deeply invested in the future of All Saints...who meet on a regular basis to talk about how we might strengthen our presence here on the south side of Toledo. Recently our *Strategic Planning Team* (co-chaired by Bill Reber and Norm Merkel) met with Pastor Marc Miller, Director of Evangelical Outreach for the Northwest Ohio Synod, ELCA. One item of discussion was the large number of small-membership Lutheran churches in Toledo, and how like-minded congregations might work together in ministry in the years to come. There's a lot to think about and talk about here!

My concern in this pastoral letter has more to do with the hard work of 'birthing' new Christians...new believers in this place. Can it be done?

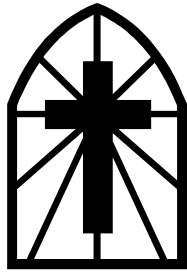
Before you laugh out loud (you're neither Sarah nor Elizabeth, right?) remember the point of my Easter message: *God is all about breaking open the sealed tombs of our existence*. Don't tell God what he *can't* do. Open yourself in faith to see what God *can* do!

So how might we begin to give 'birth' to new believers here in this place?

1. **Let's begin by paying attention to our own spiritual health and vitality.** When worship and learning cease to be important to us, we make lousy parents. While we had wonderful attendance on Easter Sunday, our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday attendance was, quite frankly, *atrocious!* And while we sometimes fill the Forum room on a Sunday morning at 9, on many Sundays we have just a handful in attendance. We can do better!
2. **Second, let's remember the fundamentals of the faith: Gospel. Grace. Caring.** Personally, I think we excel at living out these things...in fact, we're better at *living* them than we are in *talking about them!* It's time we start *talking* about them with our children and grandchildren and our neighbors, telling them about the opportunities we have in a small congregation to 'walk the walk' of faith. And when we *talk* about these things, we also *invite* the people we care about to get involved...to discover their spiritual gifts and learn how to put them into practice.

Sustaining and growing long-established churches is never easy. But God isn't finished with us yet! Please...join me in praying for our church, that God will bring us into the future that God desires for us. Then let it happen!

+ *Pastor Rich*



“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE...”

We mourn the deaths of two of our precious members in April:

Irene Fink, who passed away April 1, at St. Luke’s Hospital and was laid to rest on Saturday, April 5;

and Ann Miller, who died at home on April 8 and whose service was held at her former church home, St. Peter’s Lutheran, Holgate, OH, with Pastor Rich presiding.

“Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.”

NEW SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORUM TO BEGIN MAY 4!



How’s Your Prayer Life?
Could it be better?

This Spring, starting May 4, adults and teens who care about prayer are invited to come and learn how Jesus prayed... so that they might grow in their own prayer habits and experience a deeper joy in the discipline of prayer.

The Forum begins at 9 a.m. (sharp!) and ends before the worship service ~ about 9:45 or so. There’s room for you!



EASTER BRUNCH THANK YOU

Extra thanks to Rex and Kathy Yarger for setting up and a huge thanks to everyone who helped and cooked.

The brunch was fun and there was plenty of food for everyone.

Thanks for a good time!

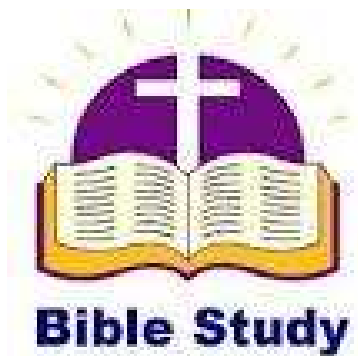


Thelda McNees
is turning 90 years old on May 4.

It would make her day to get Birthday cards from her All Saints Family.

Please send a card to Thelda:

Thelda McNees
5916 Cresthaven Lane,
Apt. #511-A
Toledo, OH 43614



Bible Study

Monday Evening Bible Study
Resumes Monday, May 5 at 7:30
Please Join Us!

**No Class on
Memorial Day, May 26

MAY WEDDING BELLS



Congratulations to three couples getting married at
All Saints this month:

*Donald Fletcher (son of Carole Fletcher) and
Angela Barrick, Saturday May 3, at 4:00 pm.*

*Jamie Thomson (Rose Thomson's granddaughter) and
Brian Thomas, Saturday May 10, at 3:30, with
Pastor David Hendricks presiding.*

*Deborah Byram and Jason Dillon, Friday May 30,
at 5:00 pm.*

SYNOD ASSEMBLY MEETS MAY 17...

This year's Northwest Ohio Synod meets in a
New location - the Kalahari Resort and
Waterpark, on Saturday, May 17.

Chris Stockmaster and Pastor rich will be
representing All Saints.



Change of Phone #'s for Roger and
Lynda Meyer... Please make
adjustment in your directories.

Roger's Cell: 419 902-4753

Lynda's Cell: 419 902-4745

Dear Friends at All Saints,

We are excited to share with you the Lutheran Homes Society (LHS) 2013 Annual Report and the first annual LHS Foundation Annual Report. Copies are on the counter in the church entry.

The Annual Report contains news highlights, uplifting stories, statistics, and lists of our many partners in ministry. Of particular note in this report is that LHS served 3,865 individuals in 2013, which reflects a 44% increase from the year before. God has equipped LHS to reach more of His people than ever before. Meanwhile, the Foundation Annual Report highlights what is being accomplished through the partnerships we have with our faithful donors and shares some of their personal stories.

We are grateful for your partnership in our ministry to youth and elderly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (419) 861-4970 or by email at BUcher@LHsoH.org.





2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:30 AA (closed)	2 7:00 Wedding Rehearsal	3 4:00 Fletcher/Barrick Wedding 
4 8:30 Prayer 9:00 Adult Forum (New Adult Class begins: Praying Jesus' Way) 9:00 S. S. 10:00 Worship	5 7:30 Bible Study Resumes 8:30 AA (closed)	6 Primary Election 8:30 AA (open)	7 8:30 AA (open)	8 8:30 AA (closed)	9	10 9:00 Lady Saints  3:30 Jamie Thomson Wedding 
11 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship Coffee Hour 	12 7:30 Bible Study 8:30 AA (closed)	13 7:00 Property 8:30 AA (open)	14 8:30 AA (open)	15 7:00 Council 8:30 AA (closed)	16 9:30 Preschool Graduation Synod Assembly	17 Synod Assembly
18 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship Synod Assembly	19 10:30-1:00 Preschool Picnic 7:00 S.O.S. 7:30 Bible Study 8:30 AA (closed)	20 10:30-1:00 Preschool Picnic 7:00 W & M 8:30 AA (open)	21 8:30 AA (open)	22 Newsletter put together 8:30 AA (closed)	23	24
25 8:30 Prayer 9:00 S.S. 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	26 Memorial Day No Bible Study Office Closed 8:30 AA (closed)	27 6:30 Ryewyck Blockwatch 8:30 AA (open)	28 8:30 AA (open)	29 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 8:30 AA (closed)	30 5:00 Byram/Dillon Wedding 	31 9:00 MEN'S BREAKFAST 

MAY VOLUNTEERS

READER

May 4 Barb Mounjie
May 11 Norm Merkel
May 18 Rex Yarger
May 25 Bob Krueger

GREETERS

Rose Thomson
Janet Caskey
Rex & Kathy Yarger
Bev Rose

COMMUNION PREP/ASSISTANT

May 4 Barb Mounjie & Peg Mauer
May 11 Norm & Sue Merkel
May 18 Bill & Judy Reber
May 25 Bob Krueger & Mary Lou Houle

ALTAR

MAY Lynda Meyer

COUNTERS

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

OFFERING

May 4 Judy Reber
May 11 Janet Caskey
May 18 Norm Merkel
May 25 Rose Thomson

USHERS

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

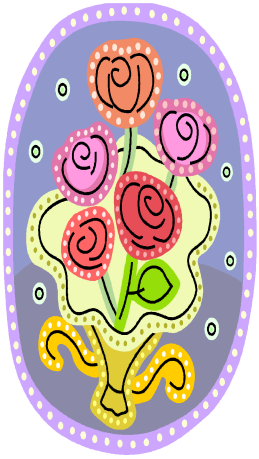


- 5/4 Thelda McNees
- 5/7 Rick McCann
- 5/17 Kathy Yarger
- 5/19 Gretchen Schultz
- 5/28 John Weygandt



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

May Altar Flowers



- 4 Judy Mizer
- 11 Rose Thomson
- 18 Bev Rose
- 25 Lynda Meyer

All Saints Lutheran Church
5445 Heatherdowns Blvd.
Toledo, OH 43614
www.allsaintstoledo.org
(419) 865-7701



2014