

# Crossroads



## Pastor's Thoughts—

GREETINGS TO ALL THE SAINTS:

In the Northern Hemisphere we are in a season of winter darkness. The beginning of John's Gospel describes Jesus as the Word who came to bring light to those who dwell in darkness. We celebrate the light of the Good News in the birth, ministry, death and resurrection of the One who came from God.

One of the great unknowns of our lives is the mystery of the future. The future can be foreboding and frightening. What will happen to us and those whom we love? Will things work out the way we want?

As those who have gone before us faced the unknown future, we as God's people face these times of challenges as well. How did they do it? How will we do it?

The promise of the season of Christmas and Epiphany is that we do not go alone into the future. The presence of the Light will show us the way. Yes, it will not be easy or without doubts or mistakes. Yet we will make it.

Remember that when Adam and Eve were forced to leave the Garden, God promised them that they would make it despite the difficult life that they would endure.

**"GOD'S YES" IS THAT WE CAN MAKE IT. OUR JOB IS TO TAKE THE STEPS THAT WILL LEAD US INTO GOD'S PROMISED FUTURE!"**

Blessings to all of us as we continue our journey of faith,

Pr William O. George, Transition Pastor



## Transition Team Update—January

The Transition Team begins its task of interviews for members of the congregation. The interview process is Part One of the Self-Discovery process of the Transition Time for All Saints. The process is to gather the experiences and thoughts of the selected members of the congregation.

Confidentiality of the responses will be strictly maintained. The responses will be summarized and

reported to a special congregational meeting. As part of the process, members of the congregation will have the opportunity to discuss and reflect on the report.

The end result will be a "snapshot" of the congregation at the time of the interviews.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Pastor George

Volume 33, Issue 1

January 2020

### Our Vision

**A Welcoming Place and People Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

### Our Mission

**We seek to fulfill this vision by:**

- ◇ **Celebrating God's Love**
- ◇ **Growing in God's Love**
- ◇ **Reaching out with God's Love**
- ◇ **Serving with God's Love**

## Country Life, City Lights

By Jimmy Mel McDonald

It's 1950 and things are buzzing in our neck of the woods. The REA (Rural Electric Association) was connecting up the farmers so we could all say "Let there be light".

Not only this, but later in 1950 we got indoor plumbing, no bathtub yet, but still we went from the outhouse to the penthouse.

Another significant convenience was the radio, literally the lifeblood of a farming area. Not having a daily newspaper, the radio was our connection to the happenings in our country and around the globe. First and foremost having access to the livestock and grain market rates determined when farmers could sell their products. Knowing weather forecasts could determine when best to plant and harvest crops.

For a little kid who still couldn't read or write just hearing the familiar sounds of a galloping horse, or a squeaky door, or the laugh of the great Gildersleeve led you to far off lands and adventures. My mother enjoyed listening to soap operas like "One Mans Family", and "Pepper Young", and of course "The Guiding Light". For you youngsters who don't know why they were called soap operas, it was because detergents were the sponsors.

My parents were definite that I not listen to mystery night on the radio for fear I would have nightmares from broadcasts of "Inner Sanctum", or "The Shadow". In reality, the scariest thing for me was listening to objects clatter around in Fibber McGee's closet.

In 1953 a tragic event in Kansas City gathered all the rural folks together around the radio. Little Bobby Greenlease, only a year younger than myself, was kidnapped and held for ransomed. In truth, the kidnappers had murdered him only a few hours after the kidnapping but no one knew that, not the police or the family. For about a week, the mystery continued to capture the attention of the entire country as the kidnappers demanded a ransomed of close to "one million dollars" at the time the largest ransom ever. The Greenlease family paid some but not all the money, but it was several days later when little Bobby's body was uncovered.

About a week later the kidnappers

were apprehended tried, sentenced, and executed all within a month. The drama was over, but for me the memory of that time, and having the radio to keep us informed still lingers.



*...the radio was our connection to the happenings in the country...*

### **Treasurer Position Available—**

As mentioned last month, Doug Neeb is stepping down as treasurer for ASLC. If you feel you have the calling to help the church in this way, please contact any council member and tell them of your interest. Doug is willing to work with you in the transition of duties, and the details of the responsibilities can be reviewed with you. Thank you for your consideration.

## Sharing and Giving—January

### Blue Springs Community Services League—

Blue Springs Community Services League thanks you for your generous commitment to help by sharing.

Wondrous honor you have given  
 To our humble charity  
 in your own mysterious sentence,  
 "You have done it all to me"  
 Naked, sick, in prison, hungry -  
 In the least, your face we view,  
 Saying by your poor and needy  
 "Give as I have given to you"  
 It is happier and more blessed  
 to give than to receive

*vs:3 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"*

Place items in grocery cart in foyer to be delivered. Food items to share go into grocery cart. Teen Hygiene Kit items go into the plastic bucket.

Thank you for your support of your neighbor through the local Blue Springs Community Service League.

### Soles for Souls—Shoe Gathering Service Project

We will again be collecting old pairs of shoes as our Lenten service project. More details will be given next month, but you can begin saving any shoes you have for the collection dates, March 1-31.



### Sign Up for Text Messaging!

Get notified via text, when we have sudden church closings due to weather, news events, special announcements, and general reminders.

*How to sign up:*

On your phone, text the keyword **EZASLCBS** to **484848**. In a few seconds you'll get a confirmation text and when you reply to that, you're in.

### Are you on FaceBook?

If you are, and you haven't "liked" ASLC's page yet, please do! Up to the minute information regarding church events. Easy to do, and easy to keep in communication with what's happening at ASLC. It's also a great way to invite your friends to join in our events and happenings throughout the year. Just search 'All Saints Lutheran Church' in your FB search box, and click the "like" button to begin receiving updates.



## The Adventures of a Cook

By Nancy Cramer

*(Dear Reader: You probably expected a story about the holidays, but for those of you who have read about my bout cooking a turkey, will find this story makes a good background. These words have been running around in my head for many years. I think they have all the elements of the Advent and Christmas seasons, which consist of love, hope, and gratitude—with a touch of humanity and a dose of humility.)*

My cooking lessons came from the neighborhood grocer in the small army post we lived in shortly after marriage. Before then, my cooking was limited to spaghetti sauce and chocolate cake, not exactly the essentials for a hungry soldier husband. The grocer advised me how to roast, grill or fry certain meats. He taught me how to cook potatoes with the meat or separately. He was my mentor and my gratitude exists even today for his help.

My mother, an excellent cook, had accurately predicted that my sister and I, only 16 months apart, would learn to cook from someone else who had more patience than she did. Therefore, I somehow had to learn to cook for my new husband and me. Later, after the first child was about a year old, I had three of us to cook for. We had Gerber's canned baby food then, but it was limited in varieties and expensive. I learned to mash potatoes and carrots and fruit, interspersed with custard, even tapioca occasionally.

*I would learn to cook from someone else who had more patience.*

Then came child # 2, with basically the same story. It helped that Child #1 now could eat the table food. My husband, no longer a soldier, had early in our marriage informed me that he ate only corn, beans and green peas for vegetables. I could save on the grocery bill by omitting carrots, broccoli, squash, and all the expensive delicacies I had been raised on. Every so often, when he was working out of town, I would load the table with these forbidden vegetables and some fruit also.

With the advent of Child #3, I was doubling the amount of corn, beans and green peas bought and served. In desperation, I added a few other mouthwatering foods like fried chicken and country fried steak. Their little teeth, used to hot dogs and hamburgers, could now bite into these meats and chomp like the rest of us.

Finally, Child #4 came. This one had food allergies, of course, mainly milk products. No cow's milk for her, only the expensive canned goat's milk which gave off a nauseating smell. Lunch boxes were filled with peanut butter sandwiches (no jelly because we don't want the dentist to frown and lecture us) or bologna. Dinner included Campbell's vegetable soup. I kept expecting to be crowned Queen of Campbell's Vegetable Soup any day, but the mailman must have lost my award.

*(continued on page 5)*



## Want to Get Involved?

There are many ways to get involved. If you would like to participate more in worship service, by reading lessons, ushering or other ways, we have room for you. If you would like to learn more about our quilting groups that meet on Tuesdays and Saturdays, there's someone that can give you that information.

Like kids? We are always willing to introduce you to our fantastic youth, and share details about being a Sunday school teacher or youth leader. Perhaps you lean toward administrative details, we have office duties and organization tasks that can always use an extra pair of hands.

Or maybe you would like more information on our council leadership. We are currently looking for a treasurer, but there are many leadership opportunities within our committees as well.

What is important is your interest. You can talk to Pastor George, or any council member to get started, or connected with someone with similar interests. What we can't do is connect you, if you don't tell us. So, give us a call. Catch us during fellowship. Mention your interest at worship. We are here for you.



*Even if you have doubts about ideas you may have, please share with church leadership. None of us want to work with blinders on.*

*God's Blessings to all!*

## The Adventures of a Cook

*(continued from page 4)*

Finally, we have normal menus with lots of vegetables; lettuce or fruit salads; gravy, white, brown, milk or sauce; and my cookbook and I became bosom buddies. The usual vegetables disappeared into four tummies plus mine. I had parted company with the daddy after many years. As the years passed, the number of faces around the table were diminishing one by one, as the child, now an adult, left for college or a job in another town.

I was the only one in the house and decided to move to smaller quarters. However, a surprise awaited me. The moving men tilted the big round oak dining table on edge. Out fell years of accumulated bits of vegetables that had been secreted under the table's edge. Well, too late to do anything about it now, I decided, except to smile, and got out the broom and dustpan to the amusement of the movers.

I still cooked just for myself. How do you divide a recipe for 6 diners into 1 diner without having to eat it for six days? You divide it very carefully; freeze part of it; and give part to the neighbors in other apartments. There are all kinds of ways, you just have to change your thinking cap. My grocery basket, once overflowing with essentials and goodies, now was filled halfway unless paper towels were on sale.

At present, I am cooking for two—me and my companion who lives down the hallway. Or I may not cook at all some nights. The two of us, being seniors with small appetites, often can make one big pork chop or two frozen dinners satisfy the two of us.

There are some fairly good ones, but I guess as long as I am the cook, I will never run out of new ideas. That sounds like fun. What will it be tonight, a half of what???

## News from the Council—

Council continues to support the transition team members, as the process of gathering information continues.

Once the confidential interviews are conducted, the information will be consolidated into a report that will be presented to council and then the congregation at a special meeting. The next step will be to meet with community leaders and businesses to get a frame of reference regarding the area needs that can be addressed.

The question has been raised that Pastor George's contract expires on May 1, 2020 and it appears the transition process will not be completed by then. We are aware of the time issue, and hope to be able to negotiate with Pastor George for his continued support to the resolution of this endeavor.

We hope to also have a discussion with experts in community gardens to determine if this is a good use of our land resources. If you would be interested in being a part of that information gathering process, please let us know.



We also will begin looking for members interested in participating in council duties. Two positions will be open and voted on at our May Congregational meeting. If you are interested in this service, again, please contact any council person.

Thank you for supporting us as we continue the business of ASLC.

**Church  
business  
continues  
throughout  
the year—**

## Inclement Weather Procedures—

When the weather is bad check your phone and the TV to see if we're having services or activities. If you haven't signed up for text notifications, you still can. Text the keyword EZASLCBS to 484848 and wait for a confirmation message. ASLC is set up with all the local TV stations for notifications if we are closed, or delayed. We will also put the information on our FaceBook page and website, [aslcbs.org](http://aslcbs.org).

**DO's and DON'T's** (from the Property Committee for activities at the church to help maintain our property):

- ◆ Do consider the safety of yourself and others around the church as the #1 priority. Fire Codes are in place for your safety.
- ◆ Do lock the door if you are alone or with a small group in the church.
- ◆ Do clean up after yourself (let Phil Gross know what was spilled and where).
- ◆ Don't put ANY liquid in a wastebasket. Leftover liquids need to go down the kitchen sink or into the grass outside. Empty water bottles can be recycled.
- ◆ Don't put anything in the outside trash dumpster that isn't in a trash bag.
- ◆ Don't leave food out. This attracts bugs and ants.
- ◆ Do close the blinds when the church is unoccupied.
- ◆ Do put clean items that can be recycled into the recycle bin in the kitchen.
- ◆ Do set back the thermostats and lock the doors when you leave.

*Thank you for your help!*

# JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <b>New Year's Day</b> Office Closed	2 <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline	3	4
5 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Sunday School	6	7 Creative Friends 1pm	8 Bell Choir Practice 6pm	9 <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline  Council Meeting 6:30pm	10	11 8am Men's Breakfast Bob Evans
12 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Sunday School	13	14 Creative Friends 1pm  Girl Scouts Troop #1214 6:30-8:00 pm	15 Bell Choir Practice 6pm	16 <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline	17	18
19 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Sunday School  3pm BSCT Board Meeting	20 <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> Office Closed  Newsletter Deadline	21 Creative Friends 1pm	22 Bell Choir Practice 6pm	23 <i>Bulletin</i> Deadline	24	25 Project Comfort 9:00am-Noon
26 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Sunday School  Coffee With Council	27	28 Creative Friends 1pm  Girl Scouts Troop #1214 6:30-8:00 pm	29 Bell Choir Practice 6pm	30	31	

All Saints Lutheran Church  
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<https://asicbs.org>  
allsaintslc64015@gmail.com

Sunday Services  
9:15a.m.

Sunday School  
(age 3 and up)  
10:30am

#### 2019-2020 Church Council

President	Pam Meek
Vice President	Jim McDonald
Secretary	Sara Meyers
Treasurer	Doug Neeb
Member	Nancy Cramer
Member	Joyce Cutbirth
Member	Ron Easton
Gross	

#### Program Ministries

##### Witness/Marketing/Advertising

Ron Easton

Learning/Youth Jim McDonald

Property Pam Meek

##### Service/Stewardship

Nancy Cramer

Community Life Joyce Cutbirth

Worship/Music Sara Meyers

Newsletter Deadline is the  
20th of each month. Sub-  
missions can be emailed  
to the church office or  
Pam Meek, at  
pameek@kc.rr.com.

## Worship Assistants—

Please note the Sunday you are expected to serve. If you cannot provide your time, please **find a substitute** and notify the church secretary as soon as possible. Thank you!

<b>Greeter</b>	1/5	Sharon LeVasseur
	1/12	Donna Taylor
	1/19	Sharon LeVasseur
	1/26	Donna Taylor

<b>Reader</b>	1/5	Joyce Hoover
	1/12	Tracy Nelson
	1/19	Betsy Reese
	1/26	Sara Meyers

<b>Ushers</b>	1/5	Brian Hoover
	1/12	Jerry Green
	1/19	Bob LeVasseur
	1/26	Paul Blixrud

<b>Communion Assistant</b>	1/5	Joyce Hoover
	1/12	Tracy Nelson
	1/19	Anne Lee
	1/26	Sheryl Seevers

<b>Acolyte</b>	1/5	Zach Antes
	1/12	Sierra Kieffer
	1/19	Tyler Melton
	1/26	Katie Dustin

Happy Birthday to—

Tracy Nelson	1/2
Hollie Benz	1/4
Judy Taylor	1/15
Mary Ann Gross	1/16
Lisa Melton	1/16
Sharon LeVasseur	1/17
Jerry Green	1/18