**Weekly Happenings**

**Sunday,** **July 27, 2025**

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**SERVICE INFORMATION**

**Attendance**

Week of July 20

***39***

***Acolyte –* July 27*-Vacant***

***Greeter –* July 27*-******Donna Taylor***

***Usher –* July 27*- Paul Blixrud***

***Altar Guild-* July 27-*Sara Meyers***

***Readers-* July 27*-Vacant***

***Communion Assistant-* July 27-Vacant**

***Tech-* July 27*-Gary Antes***

**Welcome**

***You are absolutely invited into this sacred space.  We welcome all who are seeking God’s love and grace.  All Saints recognizes that we are all unique and beloved children of God.  We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has given us.  We affirm the sacredness of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.  We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, ability, age, or culture. We are committed to working towards anti-racism in ourselves and our community. We affirm the sacredness of all those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.  We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ’s teaching to love one another as God loves us.  We need each other and our sincere hope is by being in community together, we will experience God’s presence in new and real ways.***

***Birthdays***

***July 28 Carla Deubner***

***July 28 Niel Johnson***

***July 29 Raymond Meek***

***July 30 Allison Meek***

***Aug 02 Marie Benz***

***Anniversaries***

***July 29 Darren & Lisa Melton***

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**PRAYER REQUESTS**

*Monty Health Concerns (May 15)*

*Paul Health Concerns (May 31)*

*Mary Health Concerns (May 15)*

*James & Family Health Concerns (September 11)*

*Betty F (Sara’s friend) Health Concerns (July 15)*

*William and Family Health Concerns (September 25)*

*Becky H Health Concerns (October 28)*

*David Health Concerns (November 18)*

*Becky W Health Concerns (November 18)*

*Larry Health Issues (December 16)*

*Helen Health Issues (January 14)*

*Jennifer Health Concerns (February 27)*

*Otto Health Concerns (July 15)*

*Kay (Sara’s cousin) Health Concerns (**July 15)*

***Merciful God, your justice and mercy are without limits. Bring courage and resilience to those who resist tyranny with their words and their bodies. Strengthen those who fight for justice in your name in Los Angeles, across the country, and around the world.***

***Please pray for the people of Haiti, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine.***

***Please pray for the people of the Sudan.***

***Please pray for the Homeless.***

***Please pray for legal & illegal immigrants & those seeking asylum or citizenship.***

If you haven't made it to our physical services on Sundays you can still check out our services online. You can find us on Facebook Live every Sunday beginning at 9:15am.

**BLUE SPRINGS COMMUNITY SERVICE LEAGUE NEWS**

The BLUE SPRINGS COMMUNITY SERVICE LEAGUE is very appreciative of your continued support of your neighbor.

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**IMPORTANT DATES and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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| ***July 27*** | ***Coffee with Council/Guest Speaker*** |
| ***July 28 – Aug 03*** | ***Pastor Sarah’s Vacation*** |
| ***August 03*** | ***Blessing of CSL*** |
| ***August 05*** | ***Creative Friends 1:30 pm*** |
| ***August 09*** | ***Men’s Group Breakfast 8:00 am*** |
| ***August 09*** | ***BS Back to School Bingo 1:00 p -3:00 pm*** |
| ***August 10*** | ***Baptismal Birthdays*** |
| ***August 12*** | ***Creative Friends 1:30 pm*** |
| ***August 13*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
| ***August 19*** | ***Creative Friends 1:30 pm*** |
| ***August 20*** | ***Newsletter Deadline*** |
| ***August 23*** | ***Project Comfort 9:00 am-Noon*** |
| ***August 24*** | ***Pot Luck after Worship*** |
| ***August 26*** | ***Creative Friends 1:30 pm*** |
| ***August 31*** | ***Fifth Sunday Conversation*** |
| ***September 07*** | ***God’s Work. Our Hands/Zoo after Worship*** |
| ***September 14*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm after Worship*** |
| ***September 22-23*** | ***Blue Springs Theatre 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*** |
| ***September 29-October 01*** | ***Blue Springs Theatre 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*** |
| ***September 28*** | ***Bishop Installation/Atonement Lutheran Church 5:00 pm Overland Park*** |
| ***October 04*** | ***Blessing of Animals TBA*** |
| ***October 12*** | ***Fall Work Day*** |
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**“The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus (1849-1887)**

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command  
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.  
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she  
With silent lips. “Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

*(poets.org)*

This poem was written by Lazarus in 1883 as part of the fund-raising efforts for a base for the Statue of Liberty. It is cast on a plaque that is mounted on the inside of the base of the statue. Lazarus was an activist and advocate for Jewish refugees fleeing from Russian pogroms in the 1800s, and wrote the poem as a way to express empathy for Russian Jewish refugees to the US.

The statue was intended to be a symbol of republican (anti-imperialist) values; however, Lazarus’ poem gave it a new purpose, turning it into a symbol of welcome for immigrants and refugees at the front door of the country. *(Wikipedia article on “The New Colossus”)*

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*You may recall that there has been an announcement in the bulletin over the past year directing you to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) if you wish to support the people of Ukraine. LIRS has changed its name to Global Refuge and can be found at* ***globalrefuge.org****. Although their name has changed, their mission remains the same: to assist and support refugees in the United States and around the world. Visit their website to see all the ways you can support this important work.*

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Bishop Candea reminded us that as followers of Christ, we are to pray for and support the most vulnerable among us. She pointed out that right now, the most vulnerable people in the world are the women, children, and elderly people living in the Gaza Strip.

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If you feel called to do something to help, Lutheran World Relief is providing aid to civilians caught in the crisis in Israel and Palestine. You can donate directly at lwr.org/israel-gaza.

All members are welcome to attend regularly scheduled council meetings. Additionally, the Council would like to remind you that the most recent Council reports and minutes are available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

▪ If you need anything in the weekly happenings it should be submitted no later than Monday.

**YOUTH NEWS**

TBA

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**SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

Facebook is the place to find updated information that didn't make it to the newsletter or for new information.

You can find us on Facebook Live every Sunday beginning at 9:15am.

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**All Saints Lutheran Church**

We have moved our live Videos to YouTube. Here is the link:

**https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsLutheranChurch-bs**

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**SIMPLY GIVING**

To provide the best possible equitable income for ASLC, we encourage you to participate in “Simply Giving”, a program offering electronic donations to be provided directly from your bank account. Sign up is easy. Fill out the form located in the narthex, or you can find the form on our website by clicking here and giving to the church secretary. For more information, you are welcome to discuss with any council member.

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**Pastor Sarah's Link to her Sermon & Questions for Discussions**

1. If you’re curious about the other mentions of Molech in the Bible, here they are. There are two different mentions of Molech in Leviticus: a single verse in chapter 18 (verse 21) which also mentions the prohibition on sacrificing children, then this paragraph in chapter 20. Additionally, there are mentions in
   1. 1 Kings 11:7, when King Solomon is said to have introduced the cult of Molech, although some scholars think it’s a transcription error, referencing a different god;
   2. 2 Kings 23:10, when King Josiah destroys the place where the sacrifice happens;
   3. Jeremiah 32:35, in which the prophet condemns worship of Molech;
   4. Isaiah 30:33, which may be a reference to the king instead (the words are very similar in Hebrew); and
   5. Amos 5:26, a reference to idol-worship.
   6. Additionally, Stephen quotes the Amos verse in his sermon in Acts 7.
2. We are still in the Holiness Code this week. The center of the Holiness Code, perhaps of worship of God in general within Leviticus, is verse 19:2b: “You shall *become* holy, for I your God am holy” (italics my translation – many translations say “be”). What do these commands against child sacrifice and mistreatment of foreigners have to do with holiness? With love of neighbor?
3. At the end of our text for today, we see the mention of a “clear separation” between the Israelites and other nations, followed by the reiteration that they must be holy as God is holy. (The verse we skip has to do with making a “clear separation” between ceremonially clean and unclean animals and birds and references food purity, which we are skipping entirely.) There are other echoes of creation throughout Leviticus; is this another such echo, hearkening back to the separation of light and darkness, the waters above from the waters below, the land from the sea?
4. In one of the commentaries on Leviticus that I looked at for the section on Molech, the author excerpted a thought from Rabbi Joshua Heschel’s 1983 book “I Asked for Wonder.” Asked to reflect on Israel and reflecting on what we have learned from Jewish history, Rabbi Heschel wrote: “…if a man is not more than human then he is less than human. Judaism is an attempt to prove that in order to be a people we have to be more than a people. Israel was made to be a holy people.” Do those words have anything to say to us today?

**https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKdwdmSPJdndwhKYV9jwsEQ/featured**

Reconciling Works strives to ensure RIC communities have what they need to continue their journey of welcome and I encourage you to bookmark this site or download and keep these resources handy.

**https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BxSVXGUZxCCqQ1pudWpyRTE3SmM?resourcekey=0-5LxvtlMTdT\_--7mcKNGHig&usp=sharing**

**facebook instagram twitter youtube**

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