**Weekly Happenings**

**Sunday, September 07, 2025**

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**SERVICE INFORMATION**

**Attendance**

Week of August-31

***25***

***Birthdays***

***September 07-EvieSoetmelk***

***Acolyte –*** **September 07 *-Vacant***

***Greeter –* September 07 *-******Donna Taylor***

***Usher –* September 07 *-Paul Blixrud***

***Altar Guild-* September 07-Vacant**

***Reader-* September 07-Sara Myers**

***Communion Assistant-* September 07 -Vacant**

***Tech-* September 07 *-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.***

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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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| ***September 07*** | ***God’s Work. Our Hands/Zoo after Worship*** |
| ***September 09*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***September 10*** | ***Handbell rehearsal 6:30 pm*** |
| ***September 13*** | ***Men’s Breakfast 8:00 am*** |
| ***September 14*** | ***Council Meeting after Worship*** |
| ***September 16*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***September 17- September 21*** | ***Pastor Sarah Vacation*** |
| ***September 23*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***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*** |
| ***September 30*** | ***Creative Friends 1:00 pm*** |
| ***October 04*** | ***Blessing of Animals TBA*** |
| ***October 12*** | ***Fall Work Day*** |
| ***October 15*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
| ***November 05*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
| ***November 16*** | ***Congregational Meeting*** |
| ***December 10*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
| ***January 14, 2026*** | ***Council Meeting 6:30 pm*** |
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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 YouTube 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. We have finally reached the end of Esther. What do you think about this story? About the characters, from Esther and Mordecai to Ahasuerus and Haman?
2. This week, we see Esther pleading with Ahasuerus to overturn the edict Haman had put in place to “kill, destroy, and annihilate” the Jews, only to learn that the only way for this to happen is for a second edict to be issued that counteracts it. Do you think what Mordecai wrote in the king’s name was the most effective way to manage this? (Keep in mind that, according to the law as presented in Esther, the edict that Haman wrote could not be overturned or withdrawn.)
3. Do you think that people became Jewish out of fear because they were recognized that the Jews now had real power to resist annihilation and genocide, or because they had heard stories about what other oppressed peoples did when they revolted against their imperial overlords, or because they knew what the Babylonian forces were like on a rampage? Or some other reason entirely? How many of those conversions “stuck,” do you think?
4. Was God able to work through that fear?
5. Do we see God in the way the Jews act once the battle commences? If so, how?
6. The Jewish people are to be grounded in the law of God (see Exodus 20 for the commandments and Leviticus 19:1-2 for the call to holiness). In Judaism, the law is not good in itself; it is good because it was given by God to make the people a holy nation. How do we interpret Esther in this light? Is this remnant faction of the Jewish people that remains in Persia a “holy nation” under God, or at least doing their best to be? (As Pr. Sami and I talked about last week, try to keep in mind that this was a very different culture and a different religion in a different time; we should try not to impose our Christianity on events that “happened” hundreds of years before the birth of Christ.)
7. The holiday Purim comes from the Hebrew word Pur, which means to cast lots, as Haman had done when deciding when to destroy the Jews. It is a fun family and community holiday involving the reading of the book of Esther, family feasts, sharing food with friends, and giving to charity.

**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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