

ALL SAINTS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**S6065 South Park Avenue
Hamburg, New York 14075
716-649-6266
WEB SITE: www.allsaintshamburg.org
E-MAIL: allsaintshamburg@gmail.com**



**Rev. David Menz, Pastor
Rev. Paul Mertzlufft, Pastor Emeritus
Office Administration, Louise Peters
Beth Cheney, Editor**

September 2024



The Pastor's Pen

The need for us to be doing more about evangelism is a concern that has been expressed in our congregations. There is certainly a need of concern for doing more with evangelism and, as I have begun the work of cleaning out my study, I came across something from 1991 that I think speaks to us about this concern.

Most of us have images of evangelism which are very peculiar to the North American religious experience. Those images most frequently see evangelism as annoying and argumentative people showing up at our door unannounced to inquire into the states of our immortal souls.

In the Scriptures, in the longer Christian tradition, and in our Lutheran understanding of the Gospel, this is not the image of evangelism at all. This kind of conversion nearly always has more to do with morals and ethics than faith; it depends more on my doing and making commitments and decisions than the working of the Holy Spirit; it lacks grounding in the community of God's faithful, the Church; it fails to recognize that the process of coming to faith is often long and complex; it does not allow for the very necessary involvement of vulnerable and caring human beings with one another in this community of hope and joy.

There is another way. It is the way of inviting and welcoming, genuine hospitality and caring for those who are beginning a journey toward faith, of teaching and giving simple Christian love to those in need, of praying for and with those who are beginning to open themselves to promptings of the Spirit and conversion. It is consistent and constant, though often not spectacular in the way human beings tend to measure success.

Evangelization, to which the entire Church of Jesus Christ is devoted by the mandate of our Lord himself, is the work of the people of God from first invitation to the full integration of that person into the Christian community. This often takes several years and the investment of many persons who are already members of the faithful people. It is not the task of the pastor or a committee, but it is the work of the whole congregation. Every member has a role to play in the great mission of bringing men and women to the joy of Christian life and the life of the of the

sacraments. We are all endowed, through our Baptism, with the Holy Spirit, that very Spirit which calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy our sisters and brothers who are coming to the pilgrimage of faith.

The biblical image of evangelization is not hellfire and damnation preaching or the accosting of unsuspecting innocents at their front doors with words of challenge; the biblical image is that of the invitation to the wedding feast. The invitation goes out to all and sundry to come to the Great Banquet. As Jesus says, "Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' So, the servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so, the wedding hall was filled with many guests" (Matthew 22:9-10). That initial invitation may not even be to faith, but only to visit the party, to join with other guests of the Sovereign in making merry. The invitation is to enter the assembly, into relationships, with God's people, and, through them, with God. The extending of the invitation and the reception of the guests as they arrive at the place of celebration is marked by hospitality, warm acceptance of all who would dignify our parish family by coming into our parish home. As the Letter to the Hebrews instructs us: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Hebrews 13:2).

We have a fundamental need to belong and find acceptance in a family. We are social beings, dependent on one another to learn and grow and flourish. Faith is formed in us through our relationships and interactions with others, just as the ability to read or speak or love. Through the simple acts of inviting and welcoming, the Christian community, our parish family, becomes the Gospel. We become living examples of the forgiveness, reconciliation, and love which is the Gospel.

It is indeed crucial for us that, as the Church, we become more intentional about our mission. The

Holy Spirit has not called us together at this time and in our various congregations to be small "fan clubs" for Jesus or self-serving social groups to advance our own interests. Our calling is to call people to conversion – conversion to the Lord, conversion to the Kingdom, conversion to the Church and its mission. Our Baptism has given us this awesome responsibility and also the awesome power to accomplish it. We are, after all, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

With you in fulfilling our calling to invite all to Christ,

Pastor Dave



Elements of Church being a Family

With all this rain we need an ark!

Fear Not!

(Wait for it....)

We Noah Guy!

Thanks to Jim Wasmund for this submission



The Social Ministry Committee is collecting monetary donations to send gift cards to our Military and College members.

Checks (made payable to All Saints) and cash should be given to Marilyn Dorobiala. We hope to have the project completed by the end of October.

Thank you for your support.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 15th.

Please have all articles in by this time.

Thank You! Send to Beth Cheney

@ bwc143@verizon.net



The members of All Saints Family have prayed for the following people for the last 60 days. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

- † Family of Gertrude Thomas
- † Mary L
- † Family of Bob Mauer
- † Ron Peters
- † Donna
- † Brother-in-law of Nina Arendt
- † Rollie
- † Karen Fitch
- † Mike Norman
- † Lisa Dueringer
- † Pat Keller
- † Family of Michael LaBounty



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As of the first of September I am retiring my position as editor of All Saints Newsletter. I have enjoyed working at this position for these many years and would like to thank Pastor Dave and the congregation for their support. I especially would like to thank my husband, Ron for helping me with the folding and other newsletter and computer tasks. Beth Cheney will be taking over as editor in September. I know she will do a fantastic job.

God's Blessings,
Louise Peters

Missing: We are looking for All Saints' wheelchair. If anyone knows where it may be let Joanne Mauer know. Thank you!

We may go to church once a week, but our Christian life is daily – step-by-step.

David Jeremiah




A FREE CPR Class is offered at All Saints Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 22, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. An Erie County/Hamburg Volunteer Fire Department CPR instructor will give us CPR instruction. This class will last for 1 – 1 ½ hours long with a lite lunch provided.

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex by 9/15 so we know how many are interested.

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.




Blood Drive
All Saints Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall
6065 South Park Ave
Hamburg, NY 14075

Saturday, September 28, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.


Download the Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule your appointment today!

If you are an eligible type O, B- or A- donor, consider making a Power Red donation.



Scan to schedule an appointment

Fall into donating! Come to give blood Sept. 16 thru 30 for a \$15 e-gift card: rcblood.org/fall.



Scan to schedule an appointment

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2017 The American National Red Cross

NOTES FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1. Here are your council officers for 2024/2025: Ann Spear Mayer, President; Lori Gawlak, Vice President; Joanne Mauer, Treasurer; Chris Lotocki, Financial Secretary; Barbara Kurasch, Secretary.
2. The Council representatives to their respective committees are Lori Gawlak, Christian Education; Barbara Kurasch, Communications; Rev. Ray Fitch, Evangelism; Joan Fabian, Mutual Ministry; Ann Mayer, Property; Bev Zier, Scholarship Tina and Dana Dueringer Memorial & Special Gifts & Memorials; Beth Cheney, Rev. Paul Mertzluft Scholarship & Social Ministry; Pastor Menz, Worship and Music.
3. A reminder to all committee chairpersons, please begin thinking about your budget needs for your committee for 2025 and submit them to your council representative by October 1, 2024.
4. Attention all past council members. If you have a Council Policy Statement Book, please return it so we may pass it on to other council members. Thank you.
5. Mark your calendars! September 15th we will have a corn roast immediately following our 11:00 am Sunday service. More info to come.
6. See the thank you note from Images in Glass on the next page.
7. Adult Bible Study will be available Sunday mornings beginning in the fall. Exact time and date to be available soon. Bring your morning coffee.

Ann Mayer, Council President





PASTOR DAVE,
 I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR INVITING MY FAMILY AND ME TO THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW DEDICATION SERVICE, EVERY ONE WE ENCOUNTERED WAS VERY WELCOMING AND FRIENDLY. WE DO APPRECIATE ALL THAT WAS SAID AND FELT REGARDING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHURCH AND PARISH OVER THE PAST MANY YEARS OF THIS PROJECT. THANK YOU AGAIN -
 GLEN, PAT, COLIN, RAINY, ALEX,
 GIA AND IMAGES IN GLASS, INC -

FINANCE REPORT

JULY 2024

BANK BALANCES

July 31, 2024	CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$ 5,810.92
	SAVINGS ACCOUNT	\$ 6,744.00
	TOTAL	\$ 12,554.92

MONTHLY ACTIVITY

	ACTUAL	1/12 BUDGET
CURRENT RECEIPTS	\$ 10,595.00	\$ 11,377.00
SPECIAL GIFTS		
CURRENT EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 9,643.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,377.00</u>
DIFFERENCE	\$ 952.00	\$ -

YEAR TO DATE

CURRENT RECEIPTS	\$ 66,659.00	\$ 79,639.00
SPECIAL BUDGET GIFTS		
CURRENT EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 75,069.00</u>	<u>\$ 79,639.00</u>
DIFFERENCE	\$ (8,410.00)	\$ -

Upcoming News:

- † Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 11th at 7:30pm. New voices are always welcome!
- † On Sunday, September 15th, as part of the morning worship service, the members of the Church Council will be installed in their offices.
- † On Sunday, September 29th, we will be celebrating the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels, a festival that only falls on a Sunday every few years.
- † **CPR Class:** A free CPR Class is being offered at All Saints on Sunday, September 22nd at 12:15 pm. An Erie County/Hamburg Volunteer Fire Department CPR instructor will give us CPR Instruction. The class will last for 1-1 1/2 hours with a lite lunch provided. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex.

Schedule of Volunteers September 2024

	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
Deacon	Ron Heintz	Marth Muck	Barb Kurasch	Sandi Menz	Ron Heintz
Ushers	Joanne Mauer and volunteer				
Reader	Barb Kurasch	Bev Blette	Martha Muck	Jim Wasmund	Sandi Menz
Altar Guild	Louise Peters	Louise Peters	Martha Muck	Martha Muck	Joanne Mauer
Cleaning	Beth Cheney	Beth Cheney	Dave Menz	Bev Blette	Joan Fabian
Counting	Barb Kurasch and Bev Zier				
Mowing	F. Wald	T. Graser	R. Lotocki	J. Mayer	F. Fabian
	W. Blette	M. Marcin	T. Cheney	F. Wald	T. Graser
	J. Blette	F. Fabian	G. Mosier	A. Goodberry	

If you cannot serve at your scheduled time, please arrange for a substitute.



Birthday's Celebrated in September

Laura Kaiser	9/1
Lori Gawlak	9/3
Sarah Enser	9/5
John Stutzman	9/16
Nancy VanWie	9/18
Jack Edward Blette	9/19
Lisa Dueringer	9/23
Ethan Augustyniac	9/27
David Menz	9/27
Diane Hutchinson-Earle	9/28
Barb Kurasch	9/30

September Anniversaries

- Joan & Frank Fabian 9/29/84

Happy 40th Anniversary



Pantry Needs

The pantry has been very busy this summer with at least 1 to 3 visits each week. Thank you to all who have donated groceries. The following are some upcoming needs for the pantry.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Peanut butter | Cream of Mushroom Soup |
| Jelly | SpaghettiOs |
| Shampoo | Rice Packets |
| Body Wash | Macaroni |
| Cereal | Spaghetti |
| Breakfast bars | Tuna |
| Deodorant | Apple Sauce |
| Toilet paper | Fruit Cocktail |
| Peaches | Sugar |
| Sugar | Canned Spinach |
| Italian Salad Dressing | Ranch Salad Dressing |
| Baked Beans | Macaroni & Cheese |

Check out All Saints website at

<https://www.allsaintshamburg.org/>

or All Saints on Facebook at

All Saints Lutheran Church Hamburg

Live services are available every week





All Saints Lutheran Church
S6065 South Park Avenue
Hamburg, NY 14075

September 2024 Newsletter