



Saints & Sojourners

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2009

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

On the challenge of being the Church



At our recent Synod Assembly held at Newberry College, May 28-30, several presentations were made that got my attention. They had to do specifically with the tension and challenges that we face today as a mainline church. The presenters gave a very clear picture of how the cultural revolution and change over the past fifty years has impacted the church as a whole.

I was born in 1946 into an "Ozzie and Harriet" world, at least on the surface. Most people I knew during the fifties were baptized, confirmed, married and buried by the church. Most were active in some congregation and the church played a significant role in the community. Certainly it did not compete with all the choices and conveniences that are now available to us. Even if you did not attend church regularly, you felt that you should. In those days, marriages and families seemed to be more on the same page than not.

The magnitude of change that has occurred since then, however, puts us in a whole new world today. America today is no longer considered to be a "churched" culture, where the lives of families revolve around the church. The culture's understanding of the church is a very mixed bag at best, and one's spirituality is not necessarily anchored in the disciplines of Christian tradition.

What I heard articulated at the Assembly seems to me to be at the heart of the tension that I feel here in our own congregation as we find our community composed of two distinctive cultural groups; those born in this rapidly disappearing "churched" culture and those born in the new emerging "non-churched" world of our present day. Perhaps the greatest challenge for us as an established church is to have the desire, seek the wisdom, and be empowered with a real passion to reach and disciple people from the "un-churched" culture. This we must do, however, without completely tearing the church apart.

My fervent prayer is that our fears of the future and/or our weariness and confusion of the moment will not lead us to retreat behind the walls of the way we've always done things. Or, worse yet, to hold on to our own level of comfort at the expense of ignoring the potential opportunities for an exciting, but perhaps somewhat different, church where those of us from either generational group might offer to one another priceless gifts that are of God's own design.

What would this congregational family look like if, by God's will, we could develop a strategy whereby young and old alike could grow deeper in the formation of our Christian faith and thus bear a bolder witness of Christ-likeness to the wider community that God is calling us to serve? Perhaps a more relevant question toward such a vision was raised by a very perceptive pastor who said, "Where does a person's need for personal comfort end and a person's commitment to the costliness of the Gospel begin?"

As we enter this season of "re-creation" and respite, I solicit your prayers for our family of faith here at All Saints. I urge you all to be attentive to your own personal renewal but also to the on-going work of this Body of Christ that we are. As we step back to think about and plan for a new season of ministry programming that will begin this fall, give prayerful thought as to what needs you may be seeking from this community, as well as, what you might meaningfully offer to advance our Lord's church and His mission.



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 21 – September 13, 2009

ONE 10 AM Service

I welcome conversation with you; your questions, thoughts, ideas, needs, concerns, visions and dreams are important to me and to our leadership. Any of our ministry leaders would be delighted to

The Challenge, continued on page 2

The Challenge, *continued from page 1*

hear from you! We will plan some intentional opportunities to do just that early this fall.

Know that my prayers surround you with the hope that you will be able to claim some time for personal refreshment. I urge you to stay centered in the Lord through your participation in daily prayer and in our weekly worship together. When you are away, find a sister congregation and worship there. I would love to hear of your varied experiences; and, who knows, you may pick up a bright idea or two that will benefit us all. Finally, your regular financial offerings are so vital to the health of our work; we are at a very low financial ebb at the moment and so I ask that you do all that you can to keep your offering current. If you plan to be away, please be good enough to mail you offerings to the office.

May our Lord's grace be sufficient to keep you strong and steadfast in faith, confident that all things work for the good when our trust is in God alone.



Yours in Christ,
Pr. Matt



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"If that's for me, I'm in the middle of a sermon."

Electronic Newsletter

All Saints has under consideration Emailing *Saints & Sojourners* to those who have a computer and have an Email address on file in the office. Those who do not have Email access will continue to have a printed copy mailed to them.

At the time of the decision, if you are receiving the weekly Email from the church office but wish to continue receiving a mailed copy, you will need to contact the church office to be placed on the regular mailing list. We will send you a reminder.

If you have comments or questions regarding this, please contact the church office (884-5470) or Donna Fleming (849-7130).

Help Needed!!

Saints & Sojourners still needs people to help with production of the monthly newsletter. It involves about two hours, one morning each month. No experience necessary! If you can help, please contact the church office or Joanna Koch (216-6909 or joannajohnson22@hotmail.com).

All Saints Coffee House

Come On In And Share The Spirit



*Music
Fellowship*

*All Are
Welcome*



*The Second Friday
Of Every Month
7pm to 10pm*

*Casual Talk - Casual Attire
Come After Dinner*

A la Carte Desserts Available

Next Coffee House: July 10

The music of *Wood and Steel* features our own Tommy Hanson, Lisa May, and John & Wen Register.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS OUR
INFIRMED, HOSPITALIZED
HOMEBOUND & LIMITED MOBILITY
MEMBERS:

Bill Barnhart, Steven Black, Drew Brinson,
Sally Dittman, George Doyle, Jim Roggow,
Ruth Senegeto, Forest Shealy, Ruth Sinnott,
Rhonda Snype, Wil Walter, Hulda
Wohltmann, and Dick Yochim.

Please note that cards are available on the Narthex table for the Prayer Requests. Please print the name of the person for whom the request is being made, your relationship to the person, and please indicate whether permission is granted for the name of the person to be published. When it is desired for the names to be removed from our community prayer list, please contact the church office at 884-5470.



**Sacrament of Holy
Baptism**

We rejoice at the recent
Baptism on June 7 of **Mark
and Matthew Fiegel**, sons of
Mark and Eleana Fiegel, and

gladly welcome them into the membership of
this family of faith.

REMINDER . . .

The Church Office will be closed on Monday,
July 6, in observance of the July 4th Holiday.
The email and voice mail will be checked
periodically throughout the day in case of
emergencies or pastoral care needs, and the
messages will be responded to as soon as
possible.



The deadline for the
August 2009 issue of
Saints & Sojourners is

Friday, July 10.

Email your articles to:
saintssojourners@comcast.net
Thank you!



July

5	Rick Paul		Rich Donoughue
	Grace Farrell		Martha Ackerman
6	Chuck Frey	20	Gerald Belflower
7	Sally Vale	21	Pat Stribling
	Hal May		Jane Fordham
8	Grace Barry		Katie Caldwell
9	Kathy Owens	22	Kay Yochim
	Emily Edwards	24	Frank Schick
10	Everett Jones		Jack Popelka
	Jessica Frazier	26	John Register
11	Aimee Dreyer		Jessica Tyler
	Kathryn Fitts	27	Glenn Stafford
	Catherine Beaty		Abby Finkenberg
12	Joanna Strickland	28	Amy Dancer
13	Bill Kazenski	29	Steven Molen
	Alan Smith		Austin Slade
	Maryn Austin	30	Don Tomasik
14	George Doyle		Tamie Herin
	Marcia Moye		Brian Work
	Michelle Wilcox		Kate Harwood
	Faith Hertwig	31	Chris Darrow
15	Mary Johnson		Johnny Steichen

**CONTENTS FOR
JULY 2009**

Parish Notes.....2-3
 Welcome New Members.....4
 Congratulations Graduates....4
 Prayer Garden.....5
 Thursday Morning Study.....5
 Crisis Ministry.....5
 Families+Food.....6
 Servants of God.....6
 Property.....6
 Lutheran Women.....6
 Change for Change Sunday...6
 Finance &
 Treasurer's Report..7
 Mission Freedom.....7
 Going on Vacation?.....7



Welcome!

WE WELCOME THOSE WHOM THE LORD HAS SENT! We welcome the following new members who were received into the church on Sunday, May 31.

John & Joan Essenberg

533 Saville Row
Charleston, SC 29414
766-2635 *Charleston*

Lori Essenberg

440 Manorwood Ln.
Charleston, SC 29414
573-0034 *Charleston*

Mark & Ileana Fiegel

(Matthew, Mark)
1460 Endicot Way
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
388-2236 *Park West*

Curt & Lisa Hone

4340 Savoy St.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
670-9939 *Hamlin Plantation*

Allen & Pat Kinard

3223 Heathland Way
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
881-7664 *Charleston National*

Thane & Sandi Martini

1139 Peninsula Cove Dr.
Charleston, SC 29492
330-4195 *Daniel Island*

Frank & Adriane Schick

1404 Clancy Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
216-6338 *Hamlin Plantation*

Kurt & Jolene Seelig

4308 Savoy St.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
216-0355 *Hamlin Plantation*

Joe Steichen

98 Ponsbury Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
971-0157 *Olde Park*

Don & Suzi Tomasik

1388 Madison Ct.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466
884-2455 *Brickyard*



Congratulations 2009 Graduates!

High School

NAME	SCHOOL	PLANS
Sam Fuller (Son of Hank & Deanna Fuller)	Wando High School	Clemson University
Marshall Harrison Gays (Grandson of Donna Fleming)	James River High School	John Tyler College
Hannah Herin (Daughter of Sam & Tamie Herin)	Wando High School	College of Charleston
Austin Reid Marmillion (Son of Reid Marmillion)	Newark Valley High School	Employment
David Rebula (Son of Oscar & Lisa Rebula)	Bishop England High School	University of Alabama

College

NAME	INSTITUTION	DEGREE
Kathryn Suzanne Gilden (Granddaughter of Bill & Carolyn Gilden)	Newberry College	Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education
Anna Grace Rebula (Daughter of Oscar & Lisa Rebula)	Clemson University	Bachelor of Science, Psychology
Danielle Shuey (Daughter of Mike & Gina Shuey)	Clemson University	Bachelor of Arts, Sociology

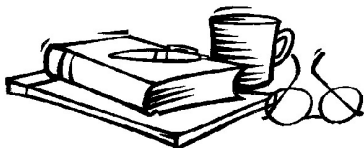
Prayer Garden Wish List

The Prayer Garden – and the “prayer gardeners” – are in need of several items to maintain the the prayer garden. Please consider donating one of the items on our Wish List. You may:

- ◆ leave the item in the prayer garden
- ◆ place a check payable to “All Saints Lutheran Church” in the offering plate on Sunday, with the notation “prayer garden” on the memo line
- ◆ or, talk with Tony Keinath, Bob Uhler or Pam Subjek about any item you wish to donate.

We are in greatest need (in order) of:

75-foot hose with adjustable spray nozzle
Osmocote® slow-release fertilizer
Broom (with synthetic bristles)
40 feet of black edging
watering wand
rain barrel



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY “SUMMER SESSION”

Continues. . .

In the good old summer time.....

**Everyone is welcome to the fellowship
and enrichment that will be shared!**

WHEN?

The following Thursdays at 11 a.m.:

July 23

August 20

WHERE?

The Parish Life Center

WHAT?

*Our program will include a CASUAL LUNCH
and informal discussion and surprises led by our
team of facilitators*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

COME AND SEE!

CRISIS MINISTRY

There is a special outreach ministry that we at All Saints support in one form or another. Some of us give our time, others their talent, and all of you your possessions. None of us could do it alone. I'm referring to serving at the men's homeless shelter on Meeting Street. This is an awesome ministry. We literally have the opportunity to give someone his daily bread with our own hands.

On the first Monday of every month, one of our four teams drives downtown and parks in the back of the homeless shelter. About 6:30 p.m., we enter through the back door of the shelter, directly into the kitchen, where we prepare and serve food to eighty to one hundred men. The kitchen is divided from the dining area and a partition is temporarily opened while we serve. When the food is ready, we open the partition, smile, take their tickets, say, “Hello!”, and serve the food. The guys are always hungry, so there isn't time for them to stand in line and really chat, but it never fails that someone asks, “What church are you from?” Without our saying one word, they know why we're there. They connect what we do with a church, with the Christian spirit of giving, and they want to know more about us. They're always appreciative. Over and over we hear, “God bless you all,” and “Thank you for what you do.”

By 8:30 p.m., we are in our cars headed home. Since we have four teams of six or seven members, each of us serves only three times a year. If you would like to learn more about crisis ministry or you'd consider joining a team, please call Kathy Thomas at 442-1517.

Attention Families!

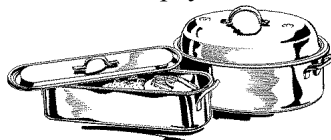
The Families+Food group is preparing for the next gathering on Saturday, July 25 at 5 p.m. If you have not signed up to receive e-mail invitations but would like to participate, please contact Joanna Koch at joannajohnson22@hotmail.com or 216-6909 by Saturday, July 18. Families + Food is small groups of families (with children ages newborn through 12th grade) gathering in members' homes for a potluck style dinner. At our last event, seven families had dinner, the parents enjoyed good conversation, and the children played together. Please join us this month or at our next gathering on October 24!



Lutheran Women . . .

An Angel Workshop & Potluck is planned for Saturday, August 1, 9–12 a.m., in the Parish Life Center. Please remember to bring those ladies' handkerchiefs, and let Lucy know if you can come and work.

The All Saints cookbook is finally ready! It is being sent to the publisher, and an advance copy is requested by us for final review. Orders are being taken for *Sinful Recipes by Sainly People, Vol.2*. Please consider ordering a few extra copies for family and friends. Advance sales are \$15 per cookbook. Checks should be made payable to "All Saints Lutheran Women."



Property

Needed: Volunteers to help cut the grass and weed! Benefits include a good tan and the satisfaction of a job well done. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parish Life Center.



John Porcher,
Property Chair
john_porcher@hotmail.com

Servants of God

Many thanks to members of our parish who provided housing and accommodations to the members of our guest choir, "The Experience", on Father's Day, June 21. I'm sure you'll agree that their performance was spirit-filled, energizing, and uplifting!

Thanks also to Nancy Coleman for her computer wizardry in putting together and word processing our user-friendly church bulletins week after week throughout the church year. Her skills are especially appreciated during the summer months as we vary the many worship settings we have been using at both services during the past couple of years. We also would like to thank **Ed George** and others who photocopy, collate, staple and fold bulletins weekly for services.

And, thank you to all those who make Saints & Sojourners possible: Joanna Koch for helping with editing, layout, proofreading, and production; **Becky Loadholt** who is both a proofreader and on the production crew; **Tony Keinath, Darlene Sterzinger and John VanWay** who are proofreaders; **Cathy Eppright, Val Marmillion, Mary Usera and Lucy Weber** who help with production; and **Ken Anderson** who delivers our newsletter to the post office each month. A special thanks goes to Mary who has been on board for more than seven years!

These volunteers help us save money on these potentially expensive, labor intensive, and sometimes tedious tasks.

We hope all of you have a safe and happy summer!

– Steve Fordham & Donna Fleming

Change for Change

- Bring your Change the first Sunday of each month. The next Change for Change Sunday will be July 5. The donation box will be in the narthex.
- Change from the congregation is used to support local benevolent organizations. In July, all donations will be sent to the Lowcountry Food Bank. They are greatly in need of our help, so please give generously.

Finance Comments on the Treasurer's Report



The treasurer's report for May can be found below. Contributions in May were \$32,860 and expenses were \$38,997, so the account balance decreased to \$25,085. At this time last year, the account balance was \$28,373.

Offerings for the first five months of 2009 were \$160,766, 5.6 % below the same time last year. For the year to date, expenses exceed contributions by \$24,446, compared to \$36,970 for the first five months of 2008.

Expenses in May were higher than the spending plan would suggest, but mainly due to the quarterly insurance bill, a higher than budgeted advertising bill and some other property items. Overall expenses year to date are \$185,212, well within the spending plan.

As we proceed through the summer months, contributions are typically lower with vacations, travel and resulting lower participation. Hopefully, our gifts to God's work will continue and provide a continuing ministry.

Please keep All Saints in your prayers. Your continued regular and generous support allows our ministries to meet the needs of the congregation and those to whom we reach out to help.

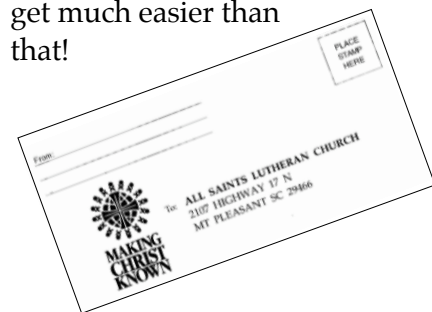
– Denny Thomas

FINANCIAL REPORT			
May 2009			
Operating Fund	May	5 mos. YTD	
Offerings	\$ 32,860	\$	160,766
Expenditures	\$ 38,997	\$	185,212
Difference	\$ (6,137)	\$	(24,446)
Account Balance as of 5/31/2009		\$	25,085
Property Contingency Fund 5/31/2009		\$	13,171
Special Funds-Designated			
Offerings	\$ 4,894	\$	23,930
Expenditures	\$ 2,034	\$	42,335
Account Balance as of 5/31/2009		\$	60,550



Going on VACATION?

Use your handy offering envelope as a self-addressed mailer. It can't get much easier than that!



God doesn't take a vacation from you, so please don't take a vacation from God.

Mission Freedom Update

Since December 2006, we have paid an additional \$379,296.85 toward our mortgage as a result of Mission Freedom. As a result of Mission Freedom and our normal monthly mortgage payment, our mortgage balance has been reduced from \$1,138,120.64 in December 2006 to \$657,774.97. The interest paid in June 2009 was \$4,453.69 less than the interest paid in December 2006. The required June interest payment was less than the principal payment for the first time since we took out the mortgage.



Saints & Sojourners

All Saints Lutheran Church

2107 Highway 17 North

Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466

Non Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Mt. Pleasant, SC

Permit #63

Address Service Requested

Weekly Services of Holy Communion



Through September 13:
One Service only at 10 a.m.
No Sunday Church School
Nursery Provided



Organized 1975

All Saints Lutheran Church

Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

To all who are weary and need rest,
To all who mourn and need comfort,
To all who are lonely and need friendship,
To all who are complacent and need disturbing,
To all who sin and need a Saviour,
To all who are glad and would serve their neighbors,
This church opens wide its doors, and bids you welcome.



*His father saw him and
was moved with mercy.*