

How about a bit of love and hope ... in the middle of summer????
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA
13350 LaGrange Road Orland Park, IL 60463
Don Borling, Pastor (708-448-2939) "all people" ---- ministers

**REMINDER: This Sunday only ... July 4 ... one service at 9:30 ...
to celebrate America and rejoice in our freedom.
Reception afterwards. Come and worship and give thanks!!**

JULY, 2010

Dear Friends ...

Both recently were laid-off ... they come to the garage sale with their developmentally disabled daughter ...
we pray ... we share ... they leave with their cup half-full ...

Our confirmation kids go to the Salvation Army in a tough part of Racine. They play ball ... they smile ...
they compete ... they bring joy to the gymnasium. The floor is scratched ... the rims rattle ... the balls are scuffed and
hardly bounce. The next day they go back ----- new ball in hand ... an envelope full of cash. The "love bucket" comes
alive. She and her sister only recently started coming to our church. Heard about it, I guess. Carole died last week. The
church is packed on Sunday afternoon for her funeral. The door is open ... "there are no strangers here."

How did she find this place? ... some of her friends ask.

A stranger rings the door-bell ... "money for gas?????"

The phone rings ----- my home church won't baptize my daughter ... is your church open???

Our friends from St. Coletta's are just leaving ... another picnic ... handicapped????? ---- not here. We are family ...
"all God's children."

She hasn't been to church in 5 years ... "are you still there????? ... ok if I come back on Sunday???"

This wouldn't happen if it weren't for you. Long-time members ... unexpected visitors ...

Life-long Lutherans ... Catholics ... believers and non-believers (if there is such a thing) ... the sure-of-faith ...
the not-so-sure anymore ... Somehow ... we all come together ----- on a Thursday evening or a Sunday morning ...
we pray, we sing, we laugh, we cry ... we kneel, we stand, we taste of the bread and wine ... and just maybe receive a bit of
strength to face whatever lies ahead.

Summer-time is always kind-of a "mixed blessings" around the church.

Worship is a tad more relaxed and informal ... maybe a nice break ... a change of pace. Attendance does take a dive ...
and the offerings are down. But ---- such is life. I know a lot of you are going through tough times.
I only hope ---- you won't forget about this 'humble place" over the summer. Please do what you can to support us over the
next few months. Our ministry and outreach continue ... we pay the bills and keep the doors open ...

This place touches a lot of lives ----- often in very quiet and almost-un-noticeable ways.

But ... it's the way God works ... using us and our hands to embrace the human spirit and to hold up what is good.

A blessed 4th of July to all.

Hope to see you "in the humble temple."

Joy and Peace "rev"

STEAK FRY ... SATURDAY, JULY 10, 6:30

A great nite ... good party ... good message.

Live music (a 2 person band) ... great food ... and a few moments where we think of all those living with cancer ...
and those we love whose journey has ended after living with cancer. T-shirts commemorating our night are also available.

Please purchase your tickets Sunday. If you won't be at church ... you can drop by during the week ... OR ----- please call the church and we will set them aside. We ask that you rsvp ahead of time ... so we can make our plans. This is a wonderful adult evening ... one that the men's club is very proud to sponsor.

MANY OF YOU ASK THAT WE PUT SOME FINANCIAL INFORMATION IN THE NEWSLETTER ONCE-IN-A-WHILE.

Here are a few facts:

*Our goal is to have our "offering income" cover our budgeted expenses. Through May ----- our "offering income" has covered 87% of our budgeted expenses. Other income --- such as spaghetti dinner and garage sale – help us cover the difference. To put it another way ----- we need about \$10,500 each week to cover our budget ... through May, we have received an average of \$9800 each week. So, we're getting there.

*OUR FINANCE COMMITTEE has worked hard, with the council, to pay down our mortgage. A few things of interest

Our original mortgage, after adding the classrooms and gym years ago was --- \$1,244, 709. As of June 1 ----- our mortgage is \$466,045. This could be paid-off in 5 years. Our monthly payment for the mortgage is \$9,324. It's exciting to think what we could do for our ministry when we no longer have to make this payment. Fun to dream!!

Special thanks to our comptroller Kathy Klang and the members of the committee for their hard work and good stewardship.

HEARTLAND CAR WASH

On Sunday, July 11 ... our youth group and those going on the Heartland mission trip are having a car wash ---- all morning during church. This helps them with some of their expenses for the week. You can also pay them "not to touch your car."

Whatever you can share means a lot to us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

I just love the "spirit" of our Sunday School and the teachers. It's why our "youth" are so cool ... it's the seeds you plant. Kathy Ruitter (our superintendent) says we need a couple more teachers (we like to have at least 2 teachers per class) ... so, if you are interested or have questions, give Kathy a call at 708-218-1127. Also, you can begin registering your kids mid-July. We have classes for kids turning 3 by September 1 ... through the 6th grade. Our confirmation program for 7th-8th graders begins at the end of September ... and we meet two Monday evenings per month.

OUR WEB-SITE

Our church has a nice web-site ----- www.allsaintsjoy.com

We try to keep it current. On it you will find ----- sermons from previous Sundays, previous Sunday bulletins (including the weekly prayer), the newsletter, and a current "prayer list" ...

It's one way for us to stay connected.

THE GARAGE SALE

This event raised \$8000 this year ... and "the committee" (as Gladys used to call it) did an insane amount of work to make it all happen. So many of you volunteered your time ... shared your treasures ... and helped fill our church with lots of love and goodness over the garage sale weekend. It's hard to mention names ... because so many of you are involved.

But ----- Tom and Jan Tomas ... and Pat and Reiss ... they are the ones who have kept the spirit of Gladys Gunnerson going since she left us this past year ... and then a bunch of us hopped onto their "train of goodness." Symbolically and emotionally ----- Saturday afternoon, when the sale was over, we buried Gladie's ashes out back, in our memorial garden. We may have buried the garage sale as well but ----- when you bury something or someone precious ... an intangible power is let loose ... that "power" will always be with us.

HOPE TO SEE YOU IN THE TEMPLE SOON!!