

HOT ... HUMID ... A BIT OF A BREEZE TODAY ... AND SOME LOVE ALONG THE WAY
All Saints Lutheran Church "Oasis of Joy" USA
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Don Borling, Pastor 708-448-2939
"Ministers" ---- all the folks

Early August, 2011

Dear Friends ...

On Monday morning ... about 10 people gathered ... as little 5-month-old Gianna was "laid to rest" ... in a humble setting, in a local cemetery. As I said those words ... commending her "to God's eternal care" ...

I carried the hearts-and-souls of each one of you. Whether you know it or not ... yes, you were there. Sure ...you don't know the baby ... you don't know the circumstances ... you don't know the broken spirit of Gianna's mom. But you care, and you love. So, on that Sunday ... the day before we left for Heartland ... to hold some fragile kids in our arms ... all I did was mention her name. And ---- \$750 later ... we had enough money to make sure a lonely mom could say "good-bye" to her daughter ... with grace and dignity.

This is who we are.

It's our mission ... it's our calling.

One night, while at Heartland ... I asked our kids: WHAT IS IT THAT DEFINES WHO YOU ARE AS A PERSON.

One our kids responds: *It's what you do, and how you act ... when nobody is watching ... that makes us who we are.*

The quiet giving. The unconditional sharing. Anonymous acts of goodness and grace.

I think about our church a lot. Of course, the foundation of our church is the GOOD LORD ... GOD'S GRACE ...
A SPIRIT BIGGER THAN ALL OF US.

Our church is also grounded in the giving and sharing of each one of you.

Summer is a bit of a tough time ... and, to say the least, the heat hasn't helped.

Lots of empty seats ... giving goes down ... and just when we talked about only a year before the mortgage is paid-off ... we have to re-roof the entire gym at a cost of \$45,000. Such is life in the "real world."

It's more fun to give ... when we know our gifts will be used specifically to turn someone's life around. But I hope you know, too ----- it's keeping our doors open that enables us to do things like helping Gianna's mom, and supporting a cancer camp for kids, and sending much-needed supplies to our troops in Afghanistan.

I know ... for each of you ... the church plays a different and unique role in your life.

For some of you ... it's every Sunday. For others ... the church is new. I'm sure some of you even get disappointed ... and maybe the church and the pastor don't do enough. For others ----- it's an occasional wedding, or funeral, or baptism.

In the midst of all of this ... WE ARE HERE.

I hope our "humble temple" continues to be worthy of your support. It's a good place, a simple place ...
where the preaching is average ... and the coffee's always on.

luv and joy to all

"rev"

FUN-FESTS WITH OUR FRIENDS FROM ST. COLETTA'S CONTINUE EVERY TUESDAY ...

Please join us ... even if you've never been to one before. We gather at 5:30 ... eat about 6:30 ... finish by 7:30. We have been sharing these moments with our developmentally disabled friends for well over 20 years. We are home to them and for them. The final fun-fest will be Tuesday, September 6. It will be held here ... but they bring the food ... and say "thanks" to us for another great summer.

CAMP QUALITY AT CAMP MANITOQUA IN FRANKFORT ... is a week-long "camp" for kids who are living with cancer. Each year our men's club sponsors one of the meals. This year it is supper on Wednesday, August 10. We have a reputation for bringing unbelievable desserts. We only had a few of you sign-up Sunday ... so, we need a big response this weekend. You can bring your dessert on Tuesday ... or by noon on Wednesday. If you won't be in church Sunday ... just give us a call at the office.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION ARE SOON TO BEGIN.

Kathy Ruiter is still looking for a few more people to be a part of our team. Also, we encourage high school students to help. If you are interested give Kathy a call ---- 708-218-1127. She does a wonderful job as our superintendent ... and all of our teachers plant seeds of love and joy into the hearts of our kids.

We have classes for kids who are 3 years old by September 1 ... through 6th grade.

CONFIRMATION is for our young people in 7th and 8th grade ... and we meet two Mondays per month, beginning in October. There is a parent-student meeting on Monday, September 26, 7:30 ... and the first class is Monday, October 3.

Sunday School classes ... and breakfast club for our youth-groupers ... it all begins SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.

HOW ABOUT SINGING IN OUR ADULT CHOIR??

High School students and all adults are welcome. The only qualification? ----- "the joy of music." They rehearse between services ... alternate singing between the two services ... and add so much joy and fun to our worship experience. They begin rehearsals on September 11. Any questions? ----- give our director MARK NUSSLE A CALL ... 708-448-5830.

WE HAVE A FUN CHURCH PICNIC ... SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 ... BEGINNING AFTER 2ND SERVICE.

Great food and drink ... fun games for the kids. Please join us for a wonderful afternoon.

WE HAVE A VERY SMALL-NO-FRILLS GOLF OUTING ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 ...

There are a few spots left. The cost is simply what it costs to golf at Silver Lake ---- \$40 ... green fee & cart. If you won't be here Sunday ... call us at the office to make your rsvp. Tee-times begin just after noon.

GENTLEMEN ... you probably have heard about our MEN'S CLUB.

"Fred's Uncles" meets the 4th Thursday of the month ... 8:00 pm ... usually in the kitchen. Our mission is simple: *WE DO GOOD STUFF*. We have a few "bingos" during the year to raise money ... and ---- we give it away. Plus ---- we enjoy each other's company. We would love to see more of you get involved ... in fact, WE NEED YOU. Just drop by a meeting, if you'd like ... and feel free to call our president --- Greg Dowdy (708-687-2697) if you have any questions.

AND SENIORS ... WE HAVE A GREAT SENIORS GROUP ... WITH LUNCH EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY.

One month a group of our church folks COOKS FOR YOU ... the next month you cater in your lunch. You can't be too old or too young to come ... it's just plain fun.

PRAYER ALWAYS KEEPS US CONNECTED.

**Robin Ersfeldt's mom – Judy Haustein – died on Wednesday ... her funeral is Sunday here at the church. She was fairly new to our church ... but she loved it here. *Mike Manning's mom –Camille – died last week. *Sharon Mannix's mom – Charlotte Robinson – is in hospice care. *Connor Ruisz is at Children's Memorial Hospital ... he received more chemo this week. *Jean Gehrke-Patterson (Jean is Doug & Cheryl Gherke's daughter) ---- her husband Scott continues to be at Northwestern Hospital. *Dave Clough is now home ... and goes to out-patient re-hab every day ... as he battles back from his stroke. *Ann Huston's husband – Don – continues his treatments for cancer. *Kyle Hark (Vince & Loretta Innocenti's grandson) is at Northwestern Hospital, recovering from brain surgery.*

