

**“Looking back, the moment of now, into 2023”  
ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH “Oasis of joy” USA  
Don Borling, Pastor 708-448-2838**

January 12, 2023

Hello, friends ...

This is the time of the year when I feel obligated to write the annual “money” letter.  
Encouraging you to contribute financially to our “humble enterprise” to the best of your ability.  
I know you will ... and you don’t need a lot of verbiage from me to make that happen.

I’ve learned and discovered a lot over the past 3 years. (I guess it’s about time!!)  
I’ve learned to trust more ---- in the human spirit, in God’s spirit.  
I’ve learned to accept a lot of life’s uncertainty ... and to “let go” ----- especially letting go  
of trying to control that which is beyond my grasp.

We have a good church here. Far from perfect ... but a place that makes a difference in many  
of our lives ... and also in the lives of people we have never even met.  
We are a relatively small church ... with a big heart.  
And the generosity of many of you keeps our doors open and our spirit strong.

What is the best way to stay financially strong?  
TO BE A CHURCH/COMMUNITY that is worthy of your support!!  
I hope we are.

Love and joy to all  
Don

**THE GENTLE POWER OF PRAYER (sorry for any omissions)**

*Debbie Facius’ dad died on December 28 --- Tony Saliture, 95 years old. Debbie and Alan stood by him and his wife Ellie during their journey with Alzheimer’s. Ellie is now in memory care near Debbie’s brother in Chicago. Mary Kay Pavell’s brother Michael is now in nursing care at Warren Barr in Orland Park. Sybil Van Dyke’s brother Jim is recovering from surgery for cancer. Susan Wick’s mom Marion passed away last week. Ken Reiss is now home from the hospital. Pat Zephro’s cousin Jeff is in hospice. John Allsot is recovering from surgery in North Carolina. Ed Fischer is recovering from surgery on both his knees. Anne Brown has a tough journey with Huntington’s disease. She is the daughter of Brent and Helen Huston. Peggy’s mom Dee resides safely in memory care at Cedarhurst in Frankfort. Had the opportunity to share Communion with Jan Mitchell. She is in memory care in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Diane Battaglia’s brother Gene Bulow recently died. Ed Murphy (Sue’s husband) is doing well at home. Bruce Ramquist has been diagnosed with cancer. John Van Buskirk’s dad John Dobosz is now at Victorian Village. Ruth Schwartz at Heartland is recovering from her recent surgery. Two-year old Avery has been in-and-out of the hospital. Linda Robinson’s friend Jenna is facing cancer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. Kathy Klang’s friend and co-worker Kathy Burns is home recovering from surgery. Laurie Owen is now home after a long rehabilitation.*

Need a bit of mid-week spiritual refreshment???  
Try coming for evening worship at 7:00 on Thursdays. Quiet, informal, peaceful.

JANUARY BINGO ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 20  
Doors open at 6:30 Games begin at 7:00  
If you haven't signed up ... please call the church and let us know you are coming.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WINTERFEST ... January 29 9:45 – 10:45 in the gym.  
Theme ----- "Noah's Ark ... two much fun!!"

**THE SPAGHETTI DINNER IS BACK**

Saturday, February 25 6:00

Tickets (\$25) are now available. Please come and purchase them soon.

This is a fun adult evening. It's our only major fund-raiser for the year. We have a live and silent auction ... cash bar. The "silent auction" will take place for several days prior to the 25<sup>th</sup> and conclude the night of the diner ... so you can come by the church and place your bid ---- details to follow. We are in need of auction items ... please bring them to the church as soon as possible, so we can begin planning. Also, we need donations of gift cards and bottles of wine for our gift card and wine grab. We are hoping to re-capture the fun and spirit of an event we couldn't have the past two years.

**THE "YOUNG AT HEARTS" ARE BACK.**

This for adults of all ages!! Our next luncheon is Wednesday, February 15, 11:30. You can rsvp at the church. The cost is \$15 ----- excellent lunch, entertainment, coffee-wine-soft drinks ...

**WHERE DOES THE TIME GO???**

The season Lent begins February 22 --- Ash Wednesday.

We have worship that day at noon and 7:00 ... and, of course, worship every Thursday evening during the season of Lent ... Lenten suppers at 6:00 on Thursdays.

YOUTH GROUP (6<sup>TH</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades) ----- bowling at the Frankfort Bowl ... Sunday, January 29, from 1:00 – 3:30. Sign-up at church ... bring a friend.

Many of you are receiving your giving statement for 2022. If you have any questions, please call our comptroller Kathy Klang: 708-945-0588. Also, if you have made donations to the church not reflected on your statement ... please call the office (708-448-2939) and we will write a letter reflecting your donation.

OFFERING ENVELOPES and COMMITMENT FORMS for 2023 are available at the church.

Who knows where our "journey" will take us ...  
When we share the journey in prayer and spirit ... it will be "ok" ...  
I think of those words on my wall:  
"It'll never be the same ...  
but it will be ok."

God bless and joy to all!!