

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER n 2022

ELCA Churchwide Assembly



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – the church body of which we are a part – holds assemblies every three years, which are

the legislative body of the national church. Church members are elected in their home regions to be voting members, to make decisions which guide the church in its work.

The 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly met Aug. 8-12 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. Gathering under the theme "Embody the Word," the assembly worshiped together in services of eucharist and lament, experienced a liturgy rooted in Indigenous traditions, and heard a public apology in a nonlegislative session to Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina for harm experienced from actions taken by the Sierra Pacific Synod and this church.

Meet Imran Siddiqui, the first Asian American vice president of the ELCA

The Assembly elected Imran Siddiqui as vice president. Siddiqui, who became Lutheran in 2011, said he doesn't always get all the ELCA's 'in' jokes about hot dishes and Garrison Keillor. But he hopes he'll bring a different perspective that will be helpful. Siddiqui is a senior investigator for the U.S. Department of Labor and current vice president of the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA. "As our church looks ahead to the work set before us by the 2022 Churchwide Assembly, I am grateful for the experience Mr. Siddiqui brings to this position and his commitment to the important work of dismantling racism," Bishop Elizabeth Eaton said in a written statement. "And as someone who is fairly new to the Lutheran church, I think Mr. Siddiqui brings a valuable perspective as we look for ways to engage new, young and diverse people."

Bishop Jim Gonia's reflection on the Assembly

From Bishop Jim Gonia, "If the 2022 Churchwide Assembly convinced me of anything, it is the fact that the Holy Spirit still has use for this part of the Body of Christ we call the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America..."

Read Bishop Gonia's heartfelt thoughts about the Churchwide Assembly, along with those of our RMS voting members at this.link. https://files.constantcontact.com/bbca2826001/a4623ea5-5fbb-40cb-8713-f1113d5660a5.pdf



September 4	September 18
They are like trees planted by streams of	Grace in Action: A father's welcome
water. (Ps. 1:3)	Lamentations 3: 19-26
Deuteronomy 30: 15-20	Psalm 34: 1-10
Psalm 1	Luke 15: 11-32
Luke 14: 25-33	
September 11	September 26
The lost are found	Grace in Action: Creation
Exodus 32: 7-14	Genesis 1
Psalm 51: 1-10	Psalm 19: 1-6, 14
Luke 15: 1-10	Luke 12: 22-30

Peace be with You

This fall we will bring back some elements of our worship space and service that we haven't seen since before COVID. One of these is that we will return to sharing the peace during the service. As a part of the liturgy, this is not primarily a time to greet friends and welcome newcomers – although it can be a good time for both. Liturgically, this part of the service goes back to the instruction to make peace with everyone before receiving Holy Communion. So truly, if there is anyone present at worship with whom you are in disagreement, that is the one you ought to greet with the peace of Christ.

We know that people have various comfort levels with physical contact such as hugging, shaking hands, or bumping elbows, particularly as Covid lingers. Please be aware of how the person you are greeting wishes to exchange the peace (follow their cues, or just ask!), and remember that it is appropriate to simply nod and smile while saying "Peace be with you."

Worship Assistants

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Zoom Usher	Audio	Video
Sept 4	Randine Hughes	Gloria Napper- Owen	Lee Liming	Brian Hughes	Steve Reil
Sept 11	Patrick VanDeMotter	Rae VanDeMotter	Marlee Barnes	Steve Reil	Lee Liming
Sept 18	Rhonda Bentz	Randine Hughes	Megan Barnes	Patrick VanDeMotter	Steve Reil
Sept 25	Kris Ericson	Kurt Rager	Lee Liming	Brian Hughes	Patrick VanDeMotter

Shelley Takeuchi, Rhonda Bentz, and Jan Hubbard are on Altar Care for the month of September.



Community Connection & Faith Formation

Connection Groups – Remix and Reboot

In the past year, more than 40 members of All Saints have been part of a Connection Group. These groups of four which will meet once a month through the school year. Each month the group will have a prompt for sharing – What is your favorite place? Who is one of the heroes of your story? When was a time in your life you willingly went out of your comfort zone? What would you name the book about your life?



In these groups we are given a chance to share stories of our own lives, and to listen deeply to one another, following a structured outline for sharing and listening. If you would like to be included in a group this fall, contact Pastor Kristin at 505-898-3932 or pastorkristin@allsaintsabq.org.

Wednesday Night Live

Faith-full fun for all ages!

We will gather the first Wednesday of each month for seasonal activities and fellowship. The first gathering will be **September 7 at 5:30 for dinner and community games.**Next month we will meet on October 5 for a Blessing of the Animals in honor of St Francis. 6:00 in the Pavilion.

Lutheran 101

September 10, 9:30 - 11:30

Who was Martin Luther? What does it mean to be Lutheran? And what are ELCA, RMS, LWR, LAM-NM and all those other acronyms we throw around? Come find out at **Lutheran 101.** This class is designed for newcomers and anyone who would like a review of Lutherans and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a church body.



Newcomer Lunch

September 10, 11:30 - 1:00

On September 18 All Saints will receive new members. Anyone who is considering becoming a member or interested in finding out more about All Saints is welcome to join us for lunch and conversation. Please let Pastor Kristin know you are coming so I can order food for lunch. - 505-898-3932 or Pastorkristin@allsaintsabq.org



OAR - Outreach, Advocacy, and Rapid Response

Rae VanDeMotter - Chair

Asylum Seeker Update (don't stop – read more!)

Matthew 25:40 – Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

The Asylum Seekers are still being bussed to Albuquerque! As a matter of fact, we will probably see an increase in the number of families arriving in Albuquerque on their way to their sponsors. When the seekers arrive in Albuquerque, they are just a few days away from being united with their families.

However, some seekers arrive in Albuquerque with no money to pay for airline tickets to their destination. Because this was occurring with every bus arriving here, we decided to take a pause to discuss new ways of managing this issue. Going forward, there will be many different opportunities for you to volunteer to support this cause.

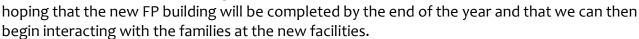
- **Volunteer to work with Team A:** The hotel model which is coordinated by Jane Braithwaite and Eleanor Milroy will continue to meet a bus every other week at a hotel near the airport. If you would like to volunteer with this team or have questions, please contact Rae or Patrick VanDeMotter.
- **Volunteer to work with a new Team B:** A second hotel model which will be formed sometime in September. This team will function in a similar manner as Team A. <u>If you would like to volunteer for this team or have questions, please contact Rae or Patrick VanDeMotter.</u>
- **Volunteer to work with the Airport Team:** Coordinated by Astarte Moreno which will be meeting a bus of seekers at the airport Monday thru Friday. These people will be arriving with air tickets in hand and will be welcomed by the Airport Team Volunteers. For more information about this team, please contact Pastor Kristin.
- **Volunteer to work with the Donation Center** at 2nd Presbyterian. With increasing numbers of asylum seekers arriving, we will need all the help we can get. <u>If you would like to volunteer for this team or have questions, please contact Rae VanDeMotter or Vicki Easson.</u>
- Note: We have closed the donation center at All Saints in order to consolidate our people resources. Please deliver donations directly to 2nd Presbyterian. If you are unable to get to 2nd Pres, please leave items in the nursery at All Saints. We prefer new clothing and shoes or a gift card for Amazon or Walmart.

Key Contact People at All Saints:

- Rae VanDeMotter revdm1950@gmail.com
- Patrick VanDeMotter <u>patrick.vandemotter@gmail.com</u>
- Vicki Easson <u>eassonv@gmail.com</u>
- Pastor Kristin pastor aslc@comcast.net

Family Promise Hosting September 18-25

Save some time at the end of September to help host the Family Promise clients. Families are still being housed in the parsonage of Montgomery Church of Christ located at Montgomery & Louisiana. We are optimistically



Spreadsheets for donations and meals will be in the Narthex in early September and volunteers are needed to help with this mission for homeless families. Any questions, contact Karen Hyde @505-453-4784.

Corrales Harvest Festival September 24, 9:00 – 5:00

Volunteer to help All Saints offer a welcoming presence



All Saints will have a table at the Corrales Harvest Festival this year. We plan to set up a prayer table, where people can stop and write prayers on colorful cloth strips and tie them to a screen. We will offer to pray with people or engage them in conversation. We also need people to help set up the table in the morning and take it down in the afternoon.

If you can help, contact Pastor Kristin at pastorkristin@allsaintsabq.org

Farewell and Godspeed to Martha Montano But we hope to see you soon!



On August 21, we bid farewell to Martha Montano as our Director of Faith Formation. Martha has served in this role at All Saints for five years, and we will miss her energy and insight on staff.

But – Martha plans to continue worshiping with us and we may hear her lovely voice with Grace Notes!





Advocacy Spotlight

God's Work, Our Voices Judy Messal, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry, NM

The Farm Bill(s) and Our Indigenous Neighbors

"The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made," Psalm 145:9, NRSV.

The Federal Farm Bill: Thanks to Crish Tippit and her Bread for the World work at All Saints, we have spoken up during the years when the U.S. Farm Bill was reauthorized. Often, we focused on nutrition programs for vulnerable people. This year, Bread for the World also hopes to see farmers from all parts of society at the policy table. Those farmers include Indigenous people.

A leader in Bread's 2023 advocacy is Julie Bautista. She notes that Native American voices usually have not been included in food policy discussions. To bring change, Bread for the World is launching the Indigenous Farmers' Dialogue and cultivating relationships with farmers and organizations to become advocacy partners in the Farm Bill reauthorization. Bautista says this of our Indigenous siblings:

"Over millennia, Native American people have refined techniques that enhance the sustainability and resilience of the agroecosystems that they manage. Larger food systems would benefit from applying their knowledge and practices. Bread is seeking to better understand Indigenous approaches and support Indigenous leaders in their efforts to apply their expertise to broader food systems. Native American voices and approaches are critical to the fight to end hunger." ¹

The State Farm Bill: New Mexico is one of thirty-four states with Native land-based communities. Blessed by having these neighbors, we learned from them as we developed New Mexico's 2021 Farm Bill. Although the bill did not pass out of committee, it led to executive action to create an inclusive food system. At the policy table in our state were such people as Chili Yazzie, past president of the Shiprock Chapter of the Navajo Nation, and Kyle Jim, executive director of Dine Introspective.

What comes next?

- The ELCA soon will send out information about the U.S. Farm Bill and will hold listening sessions as our office in Washington prepares our advocacy response.
- New Mexico Interfaith Hunger Coalition and Bread for the World will sponsor an event on October 15 in Albuquerque to discuss Farm Bills, both federal and state. Our Bread Southwest Regional organizer, Lupe Conchas, will join us for the event.
- Kurt Rager and Crish Tippit will inform us as advocacy opportunities arise in 2023.

Together, we can make Farm Bills at all levels instruments of social, economic, and environmental justice.

¹Indigenous agricultural practices for an effective food system | Bread for the World)



We are created to do this together, offering up all our skills, our <u>hopes</u>, our ideas, our money, and our hearts, to answer God's call. With a past so full of grace, our future, thanks be to God, is likewise full of <u>hope</u>. Thank you for your gifts to the church and your support of the ministries and programs of ASLC.

To help keep you apprised of ASLC financial position, the following table provides financial information thru the end of July '22.

	YTD	YTD
	July '22	July '21
General Giving	\$144,733	\$126,583
Other revenue	\$45,186	\$46,608
Expenses	\$188,517	\$189,902
NET (Operating)	\$1,402	(\$16,711)

While the information in the above table is positive on a YTD basis, during the month of July our expenses exceeded our revenue by \$18,464. On a year-to-date basis, expenses are up 6.56% (after adjusting for temporarily restricted expenses). At the same time, YTD General Giving is up 14.34% (\$18,150). As previously reported, more givers have paid their commitment for the year during the first six months of 2022 than in the first six months of 2021. Therefore, the financial results for the balance of the year may be negatively impacted by this "early" giving. The Pre-school shows a loss of \$9,758 on a year-to-date basis, as of the end of July.

The Development Committee is currently working on the Fall giving campaign, "Grace in Action." Commitment Sunday has been set for 10-30-22. Additional information and background will be provided for your consideration as the Fall Campaign begins on 09-11-22.

This year's campaign will also encourage electronic giving, like Simply Giving, as well as other electronic methods like bill pay thru your financial institution. If you would like more information on "electronic" giving options contact Andy Lewis or me.

If you have questions or would like assistance, please contact me (jkrugero1@comcast.net) or Pastor Kristin.



Church Updates

Property Committee

The property committee is forming up again and met on August 28 to review property upkeep needs. If you are interested in helping with maintenance or serving on the committee, please talk to Tom Becker, thomasedwardbecker@hotmail.com, or Mel Bentz, mbentz0440@msn.com



Church members Karen Hyde and Martha Debelak plant flowers in the parking lot



Hello from Dawn the Librarian Open House during Fellowship on September 25

Grab a cup of coffee and head back to the library after worship. There are new books and magazines in the library, so if you're looking for a good book or magazine for winter, we have you covered. For those who can't reach high places in the library, we added a new step ladder this summer with hand rails.

~ Dawn Mace

Photo Directory this Fall!

We are-finally - preparing to put together a new photo directory for All Saints. Karol LaValle, volunteer extraordinaire, discovered that our church database has the capability of printing a photo directory. There are two ways for us to get your photos:



 Send a photo in jpeg format to the church office – office@allsaintsabq.org.

OR

• Stay after church on September 11 or 18 and have a photo taken by one of our volunteer photographers.

Karol will load these photos into the database and we will print a simple directory which includes photos later this fall. This is also a great time to check your information in our current directory, and make any needed corrections. Thanks you!



Youth Pool Party Middle School and High School Youth are invited to a Pool Party Saturday, September 17, 2:00 – 5:00 pm at the home of Bob and Cheryl Klenner – 10416 Calle Hermosa Ct NW, Alb, 87114

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We will swim and have fun and eat pizza – bring a friend!







On August 24, the Youth Group gathered at Menchies to kick off the school year.

Balloon Fiesta Breakfast

Mark your calendar: The **youth group** will prepare burritos for **Balloon Fiesta Breakfast** EARLY in the morning on Saturday, October 1 **Everyone else** – come about 7:45 for a burrito and to see the first Mass Ascension from our great mesa view!

Funds for Youth - Fun for All





Community News

APS Night at NM United

Families with students in Albuquerque Public Schools can get discounted tickets for the Sept. 2 New Mexico United game against El Paso Locomotive FC as part of a back-to-school fundraising night. District employees can also get cheaper tickets. Part of the proceeds will go to the district education foundation for school and classroom grants.

APS representatives will be at the game recruiting for several positions, including bus drivers, nurses, custodians, educational assistants, food service and maintenance and operations workers, clerks, secretaries and IT techs.

"We appreciate the support of New Mexico United as we kick off the 2022- 23 school year," said Shannon Barnhill, executive director of the APS Education Foundation. "Somos Unidos!" Go to https://tickets.newmexicoutd.com/tickets/388009?tc=hmt for more information.

Church Women United

Church Women United, an ecumenical Christian women's group, will gather on Friday, September 9th at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 5301 Ponderosa Ave. NE, for their Human Rights Day celebration, acknowledging the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The theme, "A Call to Act", is based on 1 John 3:18. The speaker will be Kristen Bowre, Director of Justice for Our Neighbors (JFON), a United Methodist Immigration Ministry for West Texas and Southern New Mexico. A CWU Human Rights Award will also be presented recognizing an individual working in the field of human rights. Coffee fellowship will begin at 9:30, followed by the program at 10:00. Come join us! For more information, contact Shirley Nilsson at 884-2467.



September Birthdays

		Tlisa Girlamo	9/19
Brian Dolan	9/2	Natalie Reil	9/19
Brandon Johnson	9/7	Todd Kellett	9/21
Beverly Horn	9/10	Kristin Browning-Mezel	9/28
Bryce Willman	9/15	Matt Showers	9/30



WWJD. Those four letters were on everything from clothing to water bottles just a few years ago. What Would Jesus Do. There is a lot going on in the world currently that makes me think this particular fad might be useful to bring back. It has all been weighing on my heart. Maybe it would remind us what it means to be a Christian ... but Jesus never called for us to be Christians, rather he called for us to be disciples. Some definitions of disciple are: 1) a follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher. 2) one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another 3) a person who believes in the ideas of a leader, esp. a religious or political one, and tries to live according to those ideas. My person definition is that disciples are people who love others, reflecting the grace which we have been freely given.

So, we have been called to be disciples of Christ. How does one do that in the year 2022, with such issues as a pandemic, shootings, climate change, divisiveness, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera... The way I see it, we are told exactly how to be disciples in any situation. The instructions are given to us:

"But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women.

It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love,

And don't take yourself too seriously—

take God seriously."

~Micah 6:8 (The Message)

God does not want sacrifices or empty promises. God doesn't care about our offerings. God cares about what is in our hearts. We are required to: Live our lives with integrity, helping others (especially the marginalized); Freely and willingly show kindness and respect (with the importance of accountability); Be persistent in our communication with God (God listens even when it seems they aren't).

I will leave you with the refrain from ACS 1038 – God We Gather as Your People, to hold in your heart.

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide. May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong. May that welcome be our song.

Remember that all are welcome to join one or more of the music ensembles at All Saints!

Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm Grace Notes rehearses on Sundays at 3:00 pm Hallelujah Ringers rehearses on Sunday at 1:00 pm

Contact Erin with any questions or interest at ereil4@comcast.net

PRESCHOOL NEWS



On August 10th the Preschool opened for 2022/2023 year. We started the school year with 27 children. Once again the preschool was transformed into a magical world.

During the last week of the July session the CertaPro painters painted the entire preschool. Once the summer session ended, the week of August 1, the staff began to put everything away and clean rooms, sort out old toys and materials, and then we scrubbed and scoured to make the whole Preschool bright and clean. Floors were washed and waxed in house to save money on cleaning and the carpet was cleaned.

Next on the agenda was planning activities and instructional material with extra outside time. The theme for this year is "Hands Around the World". The classroom structure is more educational during the school year. The Pre-K class will work on Kindergarten Readiness along with basic skills of letters, numbers, and shapes. Art is important in learning how to use scissors and how to hold pencils, crayons and markers. Science will have us making snow in September and how colors mix to make new colors. In Geography we will be using globes to identify where we live in this big world.

COMING EVENTS:

9/5 NO SCHOOL-Labor Day

9/12 Grandparents Day (Snacks & Chapel)

9/14 Birthday Celebration (Sept)

9/20 Fall Trike-a-thon

Continue to pray for the preschool and if you are looking for a worthwhile program to donate to remember the Preschool. For 33 years this ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church has answered the call of providing quality care and loving relationships with children and families throughout the west side of Albuquerque.

Marleta M. Anderson



All Saints Families and Friends

Virginia Antonetty: Zamirah, Yvellisse Caunedo,

Christian

Lucy Archamboult: Tom Anderson, Apodaca

Family, Gina Tena & Family, Lynn, Jeannie & their families, Sam Moore & Family, Nina Trogdon,

Peggy, Katy Harris

Megan and Marlee Barnes: Grandma Gail

Karen Cellan: Kevin & Ronda Stantz, Kris Roman,

Andrea Flynn

Culbertsons: Will Armistad, Kaydee Culbertson

Lillian Edwards: Gretchen Edwards, Sandie

Chapin, Frank Gonzales, Lisa Foster &

Lance Gordon, Anne McBroom

Vicki Easson: Kim Kangus & Royce, Ash McCallum

Ferdigs: Craig, Chad, Marlene & Tim Homomichl

Denise Winn & Kathy Ferdig: Carol Torrez

Kathy Ferdig: Barbara McLain & Janet Franklin

Rita Harris: Scott, Alexa and Jack

Brian and Randine Hughes: Fran Black

Karen Hyde: Mark Bardo

Joy Ibsen: Dan

Bob and Cheryl Klenner: Skip Napier

Karol Lavalle: Ellen Saige, Steve Castorena

Lewis: Finley Rose, Janine Lynn

Jon & Jan Jastram: Phyllis Jastram, Buzz, Daniel &

David, Patty

Krugers: Jim & Joanne, Bob & Pat, Jon & Mikele,

Molly Highwater

Judy Messal: LaVerne Kaufman, Terry

Milks: Steve Bowman, Raiff, Sherry Manning, Ed

and Roe Wynn

Reils: Will Larson

Kristin Schultz: Lynne Morrow

Shelley Tackeuchi: Tammy, Kristine and Doug

Nancy Tillen: Arlene Harris, Julia Tillen

Crish Tippit: Jeoff Tippit

Rae Van de Motter: Faye Lampela

Bob & Lucy Welch: Kim Welch

Mark & Denise Winn: Bill Winn, Irma Saldua-Reynolds, Ashton Raley, Simon Reseigh, Family of Paula Tompkins, Family of Michelle Hougland

Preschool: The Cunningham Family, The Pino

Family

We pray for the families of Suzanne Lopez, Dorothy Stolte and Karen Birner, who died in August

All Saints Congregation Members

Virginia Antonetty	Karen Hyde	Frank Morath
Tom Arguello	Jon Jastram	Cecilia Pepper
Jean Bernabo	Bob Klenner	Bill & Harriett Rothlisberger
Karen Cellan	Fern Knudsen	Dave Thompson
Lillian Edwards	Julie LaHam	Nancy Tillen
Ruth and Kris Ericson	Andy Lewis	Rae VanDeMotter
Katie Hallstrom	Betsy Mahoney	Bryce Willman
Jamie Hughes		

We pray for the people of Ukraine, and all people experiencing war. We pray for the people of Afghanistan. We pray for refugees seeking peace and safety around the world. We pray for Gabi and Megan Ailabouni who work in Global Missions in the Holy Land, and for their family.

For requests, updates and changes contact the office at 505-898-3932 or office@allsaintsabq.org

Church Staff

Kristin Schultz Erin Reil Nathan Cleaveland Marleta Anderson

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Congregation Council Members

Anne Carpenter Wilson, Tom Becker, Lyndi Dittmer-Perry, Gloria Napper-Owen, Kurt Rager

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Diana Lewis **Andrew Lewis** Lyndi Dittmer-Perry Lee Liming Jim Kruger **Brian Hughes** Rae VanDeMotter

Mel Bentz Gloria Napper-Owen

Tom Becker

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