



November 21, 2017

Dear Friends:

***"I thank my God every time I remember you!" (Philippians 1:3)***

I am blessed and so very grateful to serve a congregation of dedicated, enthusiastic, faithful, committed, talented servants and disciples of Jesus Christ. Everyday extraordinary ministry takes place thanks to you!

I will see you tomorrow night (Weds.) at our Thanksgiving Eve service at 7p.m. with pie social to follow.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Pastor Eric

### **Thanksgiving Offering Given In Praise and Thanksgiving To Our Missionaries**

Our missionaries Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, and their daughters Hannah and Emilie have served faithfully in Kumamoto-Japan for more than a decade. Having lived so far away is one of the more difficult parts of working overseas. Ten years ago Patrick's youngest brother died suddenly at the age of 32 and Patrick was unable to return to the US for the funeral because his passport had been submitted for renewal. Now this fall Patrick's brother Matthew was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer and is no longer receiving treatment. Jackie and the girls remained in Japan while Patrick was able to spend a week in Seattle with his brother before returning to Japan. We keep all our ELCA missionaries and volunteers in our prayers as they make sacrifices in the countries they serve and sacrifice being away from those they love back home. We thank God and Patrick, Jackie, Hannah and Emilie for their faithful service and we keep Matthew, his wife and daughters in our prayers.

### **\$10,000 In Matching Gifts For First Time Plan For Giving Cards**

We have nearly 200 families who have never filled out a Plan for Giving Card. For every family that turns in a "Plan for Giving" card for the first time in support of our Mission and Ministry Fund your commitment will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. Several Families have pledged \$10,000 in matching gifts so be sure to fill out your cards and return them so that we can turn \$10,000 in new commitments into \$20,000.

### **Return Your "Daily Bread" Plan for Giving Cards**

Please Return Your "Daily Bread" Plan for Giving Cards in support of our Mission and Ministry Fund Thanksgiving Eve or Sunday, November 26 or December 3. The Mission and Ministry Fund supports everything we do at All Saints. The "Daring Faith" new building project fund continues on for the next two years and is separate from this fund.

### **Opportunities to Serve- PLEASE SIGN UP!!!**

The monthly serving schedules are available online through Signup.com. There you can volunteer to usher, read scripture lessons, assist with communion and serve fellowship. Go to our website [www.allsaintsnya.org](http://www.allsaintsnya.org) and click on the Signup.com logo. You can also sign up at the Welcome Center for December & January.

**November is food shelf month. Help us fill up our donation box located in the coat room. Cash donations and all non-perishable food items along with household items are welcome.**

### **Young Adults and Families Christmas Decorating Party**

On Monday, November 27 at 6 p.m. we will begin with supper and at 6:30 p.m. adults and older children will decorate the sanctuary, narthex and fellowship hall (putting lights on the tree and hanging garland) while the younger children make a Christmas craft. At 7:15 we will gather in the sanctuary for a service of candlelight and carols as we light the Christmas tree and send you on your way home at 7:30 p.m. Sign-up today so we can plan for supper and craft.



### **Hope For the Holidays" Christmas Giving Program**

If you took a tag from the giving tree be sure and return your gift by Sunday, December 3. Place it under the Christmas tree in the corner of the narthex.

### **All Saints Advent Choir Concert**

The annual Advent-Christmas Choir Concert is Sunday, December 10. Come worship and enjoy music performed by the All Saints choirs at 8, 9 & 10:15 am

### **Bake Sale**

Women's Outreach will hold their annual bake sale all morning Sunday, December 10. You can purchase the delicious homemade baked goods prepared by Women's Outreach and members of the congregation. If you can help us out by donating homemade baked goods, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Items can be dropped off on Friday, December 8 or early Sunday morning.



### **Childcare Volunteers Needed for - Parents day out for Christmas Shopping**



The Witness Ministry is looking for volunteers who are willing to babysit (ages preschool-4<sup>th</sup> grade) while their parents go do some Christmas shopping. We need 3-4 adults for each 2 hour shift that is available. This event is planned for December 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lunch and all activities will be provided and ready for the people who babysit. If this is something you are interested in volunteering for, please sign-up using the following link <http://signup.com/go/vMOANok>. If you have any questions, please contact Becca Braun at [bbraun@central.k12.mn.us](mailto:bbraun@central.k12.mn.us) or 952-261-5419.

### **Sunday School Christmas Programs**

The Christmas Programs will be held at All Saints on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 9:00 & 10:15 am. Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall after each program. Can you provide 2 dozen cookies OR a pan of bars (already cut) OR some apple juice? Sign-up at the Welcome Center. Bring your treats to the church kitchen on Dec. 17. Thank you!

