



February 6, 2018

Dear Friends,

I hope you pick up our free daily devotional "The Word in Season" available outside our office. The devotional has a Bible passage and brief meditation and prayer for each day. Here is an edited version of Monday's devotional:

Pastor Eric's E Note

"He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer. (Psalm 102:17)

Destitute, poor, impoverished, needy, underprivileged, God listens to these. That's not to say that God doesn't listen to all prayers, but there is something special about the prayers that come from those who have nothing.

This past January marked the fourth anniversary of my daughter's attempted suicide. She was nearly 13 years old when she took 132 sleeping pills in the hope of not waking up. I was the one who found her and cradled her in my arms while waiting for the paramedics to arrive. I still can't imagine all that she was going through, all that was dragging her into her own depths of despair. What I do know is that this turned into a very dark time for me and for the rest of my family. In this darkness, I felt the poverty of spirit reflected in today's reading.

You have probably experienced something like this. A time when your spirit was destitute, when you couldn't find hope, when darkness was the norm of life. God listens to us deeply in our dark times. Maybe even more deeply than at other times. God hears your prayers, in the good and bad times, whether you feel it or not.

God, listen to my prayers from my own darkness. Help me to feel your presence in my despair. Amen.

Pick one up Sunday,
Pastor Eric

Ewe Will Be Thanked

We had a Super Soul Celebration Sunday, but even more "Super" was the special offering received from you generous folks of \$1,250 which enabled us to purchase **10 sheep for ELCA World Hunger**. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

This Sunday Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the congregation is this Sunday, February 11 immediately following the 10:15 am service. All confirmed members of the congregation are encouraged to attend.



Family Ice Fishing Event This Sunday, February 11

Join us Sunday, February 11 for some good old-fashioned family fun as we go ice fishing. We will fish on Lake Waconia from 2pm-4pm. We will have sloppy joes, chips and hot chocolate. Please sign-up at church this Sunday or email Pastor Eric at eaune@allsaintsnya.org.

Philippians Bible Study

Our next session for our Philippians Bible Study is Monday, February 12 at 6:30 pm. All ages are welcome.

Tuesday Morning Coffee Hour Bible Study

Tuesday, February 13 at 8:30 am we continue our monthly Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall. We provide the coffee and juice and rolls. All are welcome.

Ash Wednesday--Midweek Lenten Services and Suppers

Like the Grinch, is your heart two sizes too small? Come Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. and every Wednesday in Lent to discover how to grow your heart. One way is to join in eating supper together at 6 p.m. as we support our 16 youth heading for the National Youth Gathering in June. We will have sloppy joes on February 14.

"Growing Hearts"

All Saints Lenten

Series 2018



Ground Beef Donations

Do you have ground beef you can donate to our Lent Suppers. We will be using it to make sloppy joes and walking tacos. Bring it to church by this Friday, February 6 at noon or contact Darcy at dgray@allsaintsnya.org. The National Youth Gathering participants thank you for your support.

New Members

We will receive new members on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at the 10:15 am worship service. We will have a casual orientation on Tuesday, March 6 at 7p.m. for you and your sponsors at the home of Pastor Eric and Judy. If you are interested in becoming a part of the All Saints family please contact the church office at 467-3388, dgray@allsaintsnya.org or eaune@allsaintsnya.org



Discipleship Retreat

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday,
April 20,21,22**

**Green Lake Bible Camp/St. Andrew Village
New London/Spicer, Minnesota
Estimated per person cost \$115
Includes two nights lodging (motel style cabin)
Four meals
50 deposit reserves your spot
Sign-up Today**

Calling All Contractors

Phase 1 of the All Saints Building Project will soon be going out for bids. If you are a contractor and are interested in bidding for the project please let us know so that we can pass your name on to Miller Architects and Builders.

Opportunities to Serve

Our 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 <http://signup.com/go/7nvSnh> to volunteer or you can sign up at the Welcome Center.