



ALL SAINTS

LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

October 2026



There's a lot happening in October at All Saints. You'll find a list of upcoming events below. I want to highlight several that are open to everyone. See the calendar below for dates and times and our e-news and Sunday announcements for additional details.

Our **Life Together studies** continue on Sundays after church and Wednesdays at 1pm through the end of October. Even if you haven't joined us already, you're welcome to come any week. Anyone participating will receive resources that help in reading or understanding this classic by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

We have ongoing groups meeting in October that you can join. Our **Knitting group** continues to meet and always welcomes new participants. If you don't know how to knit, members of the group are happy to show you some basics. Our **Beautiful Souls grief group** is also a great place to find support and connections. Feel free to reach out to the church office with questions.

The **Scrabble and Word Game Night** on Oct. 8 from 6-8pm is open to all ages. Come and enjoy some fun competition and conversation.

Attend an art gallery exhibition and reflect on mental health. Our partner Mental Health Connect is hosting a **gallery showing** and presentation featuring the remarkable work

and legacy of artist Leah Yellowbird. The evening (Oct. 9 from 5-7pm) will also include a brief presentation by sculptor John Bauer and an art therapist who will explore the ways art can contribute to healing, connection, and mental well-being. The event lifts up suicide prevention and will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Sign up at the welcome center if you plan to attend so our group from All Saints can connect.

All Saints is **volunteering at Second Harvest Heartland** on Oct. 21 at 6pm. At Second Harvest, we help sort and pack food for distribution to neighbors in need. It's a fun, active night with all ages that provides insight into how food is shared across the community, while making an impact in the lives of neighbors.

Finally, **Trunk or Treat** on Oct. 24 is one of our biggest outreaches of the year to our neighborhood and families. If you have kids or grandkids, plan to attend. But, we invite members to bring a vehicle and offer treats and games out of your trunk or hatch. Every year, members have fun decorating their vehicles and offering hospitality to our community.

Let's do life together this October!

*Be well,
Pastor Jon*

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 4th *Life Together* Book Study, 11:15am
- 7th *Life Together* Book Study, 1pm
- 7th Knitting, Quilting, and Crafting Group, 1pm
- 8th Scrabble and Words Games Night, 6-8pm
- 9th Yellowbird Gallery Showing & Presentation, 5-7pm
- 11th *Life Together* Book Study, 11:15am
- 13th Beautiful Souls Grief Support Group, 10am
- 14th *Life Together* Book Study, 1pm
- 18th *Life Together* Book Study, 11:15am
- 21st *Life Together* Book Study, 1pm
- 21st Knitting, Quilting, and Crafting Group, 1pm
- 21st Second Harvest Volunteer Night, 6-8pm
- 24th Trunk or Treat, 2-4pm
- 25th *Life Together* Book Study, 11:15am
- 28th *Life Together* Book Study, 1pm

For up to date info, visit
AllSaintsMtka.org/events.



26 YOUTH BEGAN F.L.O.W.

Twenty six high school youth from All Saints and two other ELCA churches gathered at All Saints to kick off the brand new leadership program for high schoolers, F.L.O.W. (Future Leaders of the World) At their first workshop, they discovered their personal strengths and how they can use those strengths in different areas of leadership both at church and in the world. These youth will continue to meet on a monthly basis to learn various leadership skills.





Enjoy a family-friendly Halloween event!

trunk *or treat*

Saturday, October 24 • 2-4pm



Fifteen adventurous souls boarded a charter bus on a dreary Thursday morning, destined for Saint John's University in Collegeville, to view *The Saint John's Bible*. The 75-minute ride was relaxing and provided ample time for conversation and shared curiosities about this outing for which Pastor Jennifer convinced them to sign up.



The 112-foot-tall poured-concrete bell tower of Saint John's Abbey Church, resembling a massive sail, welcomed the travelers from over a mile away as the charter bus exited Interstate 94. Coach Driver Dave courteously assisted people as they disembarked the bus in front of the impressive bell tower and church. Folks ambled up a handful of stairs and entered Abbey Church, a Brutalist architectural feat listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Alumnus Tony Maher offered a brief tour of the church, which incorporates a massive use of cast and steel-reinforced concrete and a marvelous 'honeycomb' stained-glass window.

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St. John's Bible Trip

Before reaching the much-anticipated Saint John's Bible Gallery, the band of pilgrims broke off into smaller groups to explore the university campus, situated on 3,000 acres of lush landscape and lakes. Options included attending mass with the monks, visiting the gift shop to purchase world-famous Johnnie Bread, watching craftspeople at work in the Abbey Woodshop, or wandering through the library. Not dissuaded by the drizzly weather, a few ventured out to glimpse the Johanna Kiln, the largest wood-burning kiln of its kind in North America.

When hunger struck, folks gathered together in the refectory for lunch and continued conversations. Diners had the opportunity to meet a (now-grown) 'child' of the congregation. Sarah Achartz, daughter of Julie Mohlis and sister to Aaron Achartz, grew up attending All Saints. She now serves as the Manager of Global Programs at The College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University. Sarah shared some interesting facts about the campuses and entertained questions from the group. Pastor Jennifer asked what impact All Saints made on her life. Her response was both informative and inspiring. Community. Sarah valued the sense of belonging and connection she felt with the congregation. Cultivating a sense of community continues to be important to Sarah in her work and personal life.



And then it was time. The much-anticipated presentation and tour of *The Saint John's Bible* commenced with Director and Curator Tim Ternes gathering the eager group in front of a rare 18th century Torah scroll which originated in Syria. This scroll is strategically positioned at the entryway of the exhibit space to ground visitors in the ancient Hebrew roots of biblical text before they view *The Saint John's Bible*.



Mr. Ternes provided an exquisite behind-the-scenes look into the development and creation of this sacred scripture and art, which is the first completely handwritten and illuminated Bible to be commissioned by a Benedictine abbey since the invention of the printing press over 500 years ago. *The Saint John's Bible* is the brainchild of Donald Jackson, renowned British calligrapher and official scribe to Queen Elizabeth II. To bring this grand endeavor to fruition, it took a tremendous amount of dedication, collaboration, and trust among the artists, scribes, scholars, theologians, financiers, and committees. (Yes, committees!)

"Thank you for the opportunity to see the St. John's Bible. I feel that I have an added connection to the Bible from witnessing this extra-ordinary volume of hand scribed scripture interpreted with beautiful contemporary art. It is awesome how they represented God's presence in all of the art."

— Bonita Buttke



The purpose, significance, and goal of this time-, labor-, and financially intensive project is summed up in the FAQs on the name-sake's website:

"The goal of The Saint John's Bible is to ignite the spiritual imagination of all peoples throughout the world by commissioning a work of art that illuminates the word of God for a new millennium, in a way that is relevant to the 21st century. It is a prophetic witness to the word of God in our day and beyond, an opportunity for learning and scholarship and a dignified expression of the Benedictine vision: "That in all things God may be glorified."

The travelers hung on to every bit of knowledge Tim shared, every carefully illuminated word and every magnificent colorful jot and tittle of the 28 pages of sacred art on display in the gallery. It was truly breathtaking.

Amazed, grateful, and inspired, they climbed aboard the charter bus and returned to Minnetonka with Driver Dave at the helm, providing safe and comfortable passage.

"I confess that I went to the Saint John's Bible Gallery with the expectation of just seeing great illustrations. I was overwhelmed by the complexity and logistical challenges of the project, both scriptural and aesthetic. Curator Tim's dialogue with us about individual pages was very thought provoking, particularly the page concerning the Ten Commandments and the most boring passage in Matthew.

Tim's exhortation that this famous Bible should be used by congregations to bring them together and not just to admire it as an artwork was very compelling. The plan to bind the pages into books and the projected 7 years to finish binding the books made a great deal of sense after the whole of the project was explained. The Abbey should try to raise funds to make a video about the binding process, which to judge by the few photos about it, is as technically demanding as the calligraphy."

— Steve Suppan



Three months of work finally came to fruition in September as we completed the refurbishment of our youth room. The old carpeted steps were removed, the walls repainted, and the flooring redone.

A new high top counter was installed, which includes a refrigerator. Sound dampening tiles were installed to dampen echoes during exciting games, and lighting was added to bring a sense of energy to the room.

Thank you to Greg Jackson, Doug Larson, Aaron Achartz, and Dale Lighter for helping with demolition and construction.





KIDS CONNECTION AND CROSSROADS KICK OFF THE YEAR

September is always a big month for Family Ministry as it marks the start of our program year. On Sunday mornings at Kids Connection, we have been learning about problems and promises: the problems that the Israelites faced and how God helped them through those problems. New families are welcome to join us any week for Kids Connection. New this year, kids younger than 3 and their parents can join for large group and enjoy toddler friendly activities.

On Wednesday nights, Crossroads youth in 6-8th grade are gathering to learn about their faith. This year is focused on the roots of our Lutheran faith in our theme Rooted. Youth will learn where their faith comes from and what it means to be rooted and grounded in love. Throughout the year, youth will learn how to grow and nourish their own faith roots in a variety of ways.





Our October Wellness focus is
Intellectual Wellness

INTELLECTUAL WELLNESS

October Wellness Focus

It's October, arguably the most beautiful month of them all in Minnesota. Whether you love sweater weather, breathtaking outdoor colors, the ramping up of football season, or a really good crock of soup, there is something for everyone. And you know what else is for everyone? Improving our Intellectual Wellness! In October we'll be covering topics like games, starting small to learn something new, and how being in community can benefit intellectual wellness.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

All Saints Sunday is November 1st and Parents Night Out is Friday, November 13. Keep an eye out for more details about that and other upcoming events in the weekly E-News.

PEACE MOMENT

"All the shadows of All Hallows Eve whisper secrets of quiet grace, turning the restless spirits of the night into a profound and gentle peace that carries us safely into the dawn."

— Unknown



All Saints Lutheran Church

Available in App Stores



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