

**“THE LOVE BUCKET GETS BIGGER BY THE DAY!@!!
All Saints Lutheran Church “Oasis of Joy” USA
13350 S. LaGrange Road Orland Park, IL 60462
Don Borling, Pastor 708-448-2939**

SEPTEMBER ... 2017

Dear Friends ...

My heart is all over the place lately ... how about yours??

I can't get Texas out of my head ... and --- I don't want to. What's happening with hurricane Harvey ... the pain and devastation it's bringing to our brothers and sisters miles away ... the chilling visions of hardship and heroism and sacrifice and fear and courage and every possible emotion.

The church phone rings several times a day ----- “Don, what are we doing for Texas? ... we gotta do something!” Yes, we do. GIVING is at the heart-and-soul of what we stand for. It's why we pay our bills ... it's why the coffee is on and the doors are open ... it's why we worship and sing “Kyrie eleison” and tap our feet ----- so we can be a spirit-filled community that, in some small measure, can make a difference in the world around us.

There are so many needs out there in the world.

Every Sunday you see how long the prayer list is. Each one of you ----- you have a journey that is unique. Often ----- just knowing others care ... knowing you are in the prayers of people who may not even know you ----- it gives us a kind-of inner sense of strength and peace ... so we can face whatever the future will bring. Kieran Conway knows ... when he journeys to the University of Michigan to undergo more treatment for his cancer ... a “little hunk” of All Saints will be with him. Linda Ruisz knows ... when we hold hands in church and pray for her journey with cancer ... yes, as we hold hands ... she is in the hands of a gentle power who loves and embraces her. Whenever Walt Schillinger gets into his lift ---- getting him from downstairs to upstairs ---- he is reminded of the “lift” his friends at All Saints has given him.

I have a high school classmate who lives by Holy Comforter Lutheran Church in Kingwood, Texas. They have been deeply affected by the flooding. My seminary colleague – Pastor Grant Housewright – serves a church in Houston. They both follow our services on-line ... and they were touched by the spirit of our prayers and concern last Sunday. I asked if we could funnel our financial help directly to them ... and they can get the money to families directly affected ----- they are excited to do so. Working together ... extending kindness and generosity across the miles. From the Red Cross to churches like ours to each one of you this is where God's spirit comes alive.

Labor Day weekend.

Honoring the gift of labor ... the fruits of our labor ... all the different kinds of work people do ----- to help us get through an “ordinary day.” It's so easy to take what others do for us for granted.

I know it's a “holiday weekend” ... enjoy it.

It's time to come back together in church. We have a lot to be thankful for.

We need you. We need your support --- financially and spiritually. Most of all ----- we need the energy and goodness our “humble temple” has to offer the world around us.

GIVING AND LOVING AND CARING cannot be measured by “how much” ... it really can't be measured at all. It's about the depth of our commitment to the kindness and generosity of a humble carpenter --- who quietly changed his corner of the kingdom ... one soul at a time.

Love and joy to all ... “rev”

OUTREACH BINGO FOR TEXAS ... FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 ...
doors opening at 6:30 ... first call at 7:00

Our men's club was unanimous last nite in wanting all the money we raise on the 15th to go to the relief effort for those affected by hurricane Harvey. It's another way we can help. So ---- let's "pack the house" and make a difference. The men's club also made a sizeable donation to help pay for Walt's chair-lift ... and to help Kieran Conway in his treatments for cancer.

CIVIL WAR BAND CONCERT ... SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2:00 PM

An early "supper" to follow in Charter Hall.

My late brother Gary began this band in his hometown of Bloomington, IL. They wear authentic Civil War garb ... and play restored Civil War instruments. The concert is being under-written by Jude Borling's Love Bucket Fund ... we will take a free-will offering for supper. Would really like to see a good turn-out. They are lots of fun ... good music ... and they are making quite an effort to be here. Please encourage friends and neighbors to come ... and rsvp as soon as possible.

THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 10 MEANS THE BEGINNING OF OUR FALL SEASON

Worship is at 8:30 and 11:00 with Sunday School, Youth Group Breakfast Club, and Adult Choir between services. Registration forms are still available ... please register this Sunday if possible, or drop by the church.

We have THURSDAY NIGHT WORSHIP every week ... and it looks like it's time to move indoors ... after a wonderful outdoor season of Thursday evening worship.

OUR YOUTH GROUP is open to young people 7th – 12th grade.

CONFIRMATION CLASS is for 7th and 8th graders ... and we meet two Monday evenings per month.

We have a meeting for students and parents on Monday, September 25, 7:00. It's important that you come, as we talk about our program for the coming year.

On Sunday, September 24, at the 11:00 service ---- we are confirming those young people who have completed their 2-year program.

THE ADULT CHOIR welcomes new participants ---- high school age and up!! We have a scholarship program for high school students. Please call our music director – Doug Klang – if you have any questions. His number is ----- 708-945-2188.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

*Young people junior high and older, who would like to help staff the Sunday morning nursery.

*USHERS ... men and women ... for both services.

*GREETERS ... to say "hi" and help set the tone for Sunday morning.

*SHARING ALTAR FLOWERS, THE ETERNAL LIGHT, AND HELPING DON WITH COMMUNION ...

Call the office anytime ... 708-448-2939

THE PRAYER CONNECTION

**Karen Heatherly's mom – Marie – died recently. *Debbie Nelson's mom – Corinne Pannozo – has been diagnosed with cancer, and is at Lexington. *Walt Schillinger is at home, enjoying his "lift" ...*

**Pastor Walt Ledogar is at Burgess Re-hab in Westmont. *Laimdota Ansmits' good friend -- Francene Jones -- is very sick. *Liz McIntyre's nephew – Andy Mikkal – continues his journey with cancer.*

**Bonnie O'Malley is recovering from surgery. *Phil Acquaviva's mom – Susan – has begun chemotherapy.*

**John Deitche's wife Martha is recovering from surgery. *Linda Ruisz will soon begin more treatments for her cancer ... it's been a long journey for Linda ---- we stand by you ... and Kieran Conway, too.*

**Friends of Debbie Facius --- their son Knox Kenney still in ICU, only 1 pound when born.*

