

SAINTS

All Saints

AUBURN, WASHINGTON

ALIVE!

July 2026

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are compelled to demonstrate compassion to one another and to the world in which we live.

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ. For many weeks leading up to this month and yes proceeding into the same, the nation has been celebrating its two hundred and fifty years of existence dating the same to July the 4th 1776. There have been many variations on ways to celebrate. As a Christian, a pastor, and a citizen of this country, I have mixed emotions regarding any Fourth of July celebration. On the one hand, I marvel at the Founders and the level of wisdom, courage, and tenacity demonstrated to establish these United States. I have read a great deal of nonfiction material over the years covering the lives of the Founders and the history behind the birth of this nation. It truly was a miracle that this nation and its democracy came into fruition. So many things could have gone wrong initially and eventually, and yet the vision unfolded. I truly am grateful for this wondrous experiment in democracy.

However, as a disciple of Christ first, and a citizen second, I do find myself often with the feeling of being a resident alien. There are so many core values to the faith which are contrary to what is currently going on in the nation, and yes indeed what has happened historically. With a national history fraught with imperial tendencies, weighed down by a national epidemic of racism, a nation where the rich continue to lord it over the poor, we have significant challenges

and our faith dares to challenge these idolatries and priorities. As peacemakers, those called to hunger and thirst for righteousness, those who seek mercy and justice, we must call out the principalities and powers. We cannot be afraid to call something what it is and hope and pray for a world where peace and justice reign.

I give thanks for the blessing of this nation. I give thanks for the vision of the Founders long ago. Simultaneously, as a disciple of Christ, I will continue to act for a more just and merciful world, loving my enemies as well as my family and friends. May God grant you a most blessed Fourth of July and a summer filled with wonder and grace.

-Pastor Vaswig

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

“For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord,” plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Looking back one year ago, in the early morning of June 30, the day of the fire at All Saints, I would have had to question the Lord's plans. Really, Lord...Pastor Jan retires and the majority of the church burns down all in one month? But we have come such a long way since that day. I have seen such strength, and dedication, and support among us. We didn't miss one worship service and our ministries have continued without missing a beat. The community stepped up donating lots of peanut butter and jelly and donating to our GOFUNDME account for the same. You all have been faithful in your attendance and giving, especially in starting the Out of the Ashes Fund. Donations have come in from you, the members of All Saints', other churches, in memorial gifts, and from friends and family. The rebuild is off to a strong start and before long we will be having potlucks, making quilts, and running our feeding ministry out of it. We have been blessed to have Pastor John as our interim pastor, preaching and teaching, leading us forward, planting new ideas and helping us discern our future. So, I have come to find strength in the above words from Jeremiah, that the Lord does have plans to give US hope and a future. I can't wait to see where He leads us next.

-Beth

COUNCIL CORNER

Christmas in July: The Heart of Christmas... in the Heat of Summer



When the summer sunlight glares through our windows and lingers late into the evening, it is a beautiful reminder that the warmth of God’s love is not seasonal. The message of Christ’s birth—hope for the weary, peace for the anxious, joy for the heart, and love for the world—does not belong only to December. It is a gift for every month, every season, and every ordinary day. Even in the heat of summer, we are invited to carry the spirit of Christmas with us by offering kindness, sharing encouragement, and remembering that God is still present in our lives.

Perhaps the Christmas spirit can also lead us to think again about generosity. In December, many of us naturally feel drawn to give—whether to family and friends, to neighbors in need, or to charitable organizations doing important work in our communities, but the needs that are met by those ministries and nonprofits do not pause when the decorations are packed away. Many organizations are facing especially difficult seasons right now, as funding has been reduced and resources have become harder to secure. With thousands of nonprofit organizations in Washington State alone, each one is working faithfully to be seen and heard as they continue serving the community and world around them.

Summer can be a wonderful time to remember that generosity is not just a holiday habit but a year-round expression of Christ’s love. A gift of any size, offered with compassion, can become a source of hope and encouragement to those who need it most. So the next time you feel the sun on your face, let it remind you of the steady, life-giving love of Christ—warm, faithful, and never confined to a single season. And perhaps, in that moment, you may feel led to extend a bit of that warmth to a charity or ministry close to your heart.

Kris F.

Call Committee Update

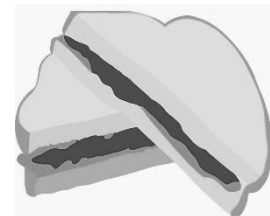
The Call Committee has been meeting, and we have a final draft of questions for the candidates for our next All Saints' pastor. Once we have completed a "mock" interview in July to ensure our questions are good ones, we will start the process of talking to candidates. I know we are all anxious to get this important decision completed, and we appreciate everyone's prayers for wisdom and discernment as we move through the process. We will keep everyone informed along the way.

Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made know to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

-Debi Dopps

Homeless Care and Support

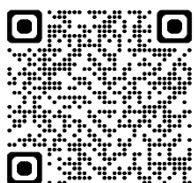
The Homeless Care and Support sandwich making is moving to the Narthex! We have clean, running water again in the church Narthex; praise the Lord. After almost one year of making weekly pb&j sandwiches in Jean's kitchen, we are moving our volunteers and sandwich makings to the church Narthex beginning Friday, July 10th. Currently, we are making about 80 sandwiches per week so our start time will be 8:30am.



For anyone scheduling future meetings or events in the Narthex on Friday mornings, please consider our sandwich making from 8:30am to 10:30am. And many, many thanks to Jean for opening up her home and kitchen to all of our sticky fingers and bread crumbs but most of all for creating lasting memories of fellowship and belly laughs. You are an angel, Jean!

Blessings to all of our volunteers,

Debbie McDaniel



Be sure to check out our new website at aslcauburn.com, or scan this QR code. Thank you, Val, for getting it up and running.

WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

- ♥ **Casie D.** for 15 years of dedicated service as musician to All Saints'.
- ♥ **Pete M.** for picking up garbage from grass areas and parking lot.
- ♥ **Kris F.** and **Cheri C.** for the fabulous send off picnic for Casie.
- ♥ **Val B.** for our fabulous new website.
- ♥ **Carol F.** for filling in as church musician.
- ♥ **Debbie McD.** for keeping our water cooler filled.

FUN, FAITH, & FELLOWSHIP UPCOMING EVENTS



Photo by Nicole Assumpcao

July: Dambo Troll #3: Jakob Two Trees

Where: Issaquah

When: **July 16** (Thursday)

Cost: Help your driver with gas money, otherwise free

Details: Meet at ASLC at 10 am to carpool to Issaquah.

Or meet us there.

Walk ¼ mile on a paved path at the Issaquah Community Center

Lunch to follow.

August: Rainiers Baseball Game

Where: Tacoma Cheney Stadium

When: **August 11** (Tuesday), noon game

Cost: \$15.50 Tickets available thru Karen for group rate

Details: Group Express gives you a reserved seat, Ballpark meal: value hot dog, snack, bottled water

Meet at ASLC 10:45 am to carpool or meet us at the ballpark

For questions about any of these events, or suggestions for future events, please contact Karen Baughman, Lael Sandeno or Debi Dopps. We try to balance our outings for different days of the week/weekends and for a variety of interests. See the Bulletin board in the Narthex for photographs from previous events, as well as details about upcoming events.

THIS QUARTER'S BENEVOLENCE



Our 3rd quarter (July -Sep) Community Connections Benevolence is **Bread for the World**. According to their website, :

Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Our mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

Food banks are also essential – but we focus on advocacy. Why? Because federal nutrition programs provide roughly 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities combined. With the stroke of a pen, our government leaders have the power to create policies and programs that impact millions of people at once.

Our faith in Christ is the foundation for our mission and compels us to love our neighbors near and far. We are led by the values of our faith to stand up for those experiencing hunger all over.

You can donate on Sunday morning (just make a note on your envelope that you are giving specifically to this), or you can make a donation using Tithe.ly on ASLCauburn.com. Find the link under the “Donate” tab.

FROM THE VISION TEAM:



The Vision Team met with Joey Ager from the Synod Office for the second time last week. We have met with him to explore the possibility of doing a feasibility study of our property to determine the options we have for building “something” toward fulfilling our mission of helping our community. A feasibility study will look at zoning, county and state regulations regarding permitting and building, survey the community to help determine needs, and help plan lay out on our property. Members of the Vision Team are excited to tell you more! Ask any of us: Dave and Carol Foltz, Marty and Debi Dopps, Mark and Karen Baughman, Cheri Cruse, Val Berg, Debbie McDaniel or Beth Lindell.

ALL SAINTS' OUTDOOR MARKET 2026

ALL FOOD IS FREE, ALL ARE WELCOMED



FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES & MORE

SUNDAYS

**11:30AM
(UNTIL
FOOD IS
GONE)**

- **JULY 12TH**
- **AUG. 9TH**
- **SEPT. 13TH**

**BRING
YOUR
OWN
BAGS!**

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Light Green Church, Corner of Military Rd S. & S. 272nd)
27225 Military Rd S**

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