

ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2020

CRECHE OFFERINGS

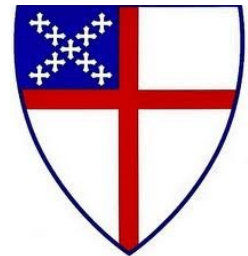
Schedule of Advent Offerings at the Crèche

It is our tradition, during the four Sundays in Advent, to bring gifts to the crèche for the most vulnerable in our community. This year is no exception. Even though we may not be able to gather as we normally do, we will still collect the following items. Bring them by church on Sunday or drop them off at the office during the week.



First Sunday of Advent, November 29 - Teddy Bears

You are invited to bring teddy bears and other NEW stuffed animals, less than 12" tall, which will then be given to North Valley Hospital. Last year North Valley Hospital gave away thousands of stuffed animals to their young pediatric patients who came to the emergency room. Often that can be a frightening experience and a soft stuffed toy can go a long way to provide comfort.



Second Sunday of Advent, December 6 - Food for Food Pantries

We collect non-perishable food for local food banks as the offering for this day. A concerted effort to help well stock these vital ministries in our valley is important when the need is so great.



ALL SAINTS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent, December 13 - Pet Food

On this day we will collect dog and cat food in an effort to provide food for the pets of people having difficulty making ends meet. The food you donate will be transported to the Flathead Valley Spay and Neuter Task Force for distribution to those who can use such help.



Merry
Christmas

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20 - NEW Warm Clothing

For the last Sunday in Advent our focus is on warm clothing for the Warming Center, a low barrier shelter which provides a warm and safe place for unhoused individuals during the coldest months of the year. The Warming Center was located in the basement of Christ Church last year and has found a temporary home at Faith

Lutheran Church in Kalispell until their new permanent home is ready. The Warming Center is asking for warm gloves mens size L and XL, warm socks, and hand warmers. Please help warm your and their hearts by bringing this type of clothing to the crèche.



IN THIS ISSUE

Creche	pg.	1
Caring Tree	pg.	2
Prayer Chain	pg	3
Offertory	pg.	4
Construction	pg	5-9
Calendar	pg.	10
Service Update	pg.	11

A BIG THANK YOU

By Vera Smith

The response to the call for dog and cat food for the Blackfeet Reservation was overwhelming both in actual bags of food and with monetary donations for purchases.

When we delivered all the food to Jerri, our connection to the Reservation, she was absolutely delighted indicating that it was perfect timing and praised you all for your kindness to the animals on the Reservation!

Again, thank you so much for your immediate assistance!



SAMARITAN HOUSE CARING TREE

By Vera Smith

The Christmas Caring Tree process is going to look a little different this year.

The tags have been delivered to Samaritan House and will be picked up on Monday, December 7th.

Fr. Charlie will post them on our website within a few days of that date.

The tags will show what the residents are wishing for this Christmas. Fr. Charlie will devise a way for you to claim your tag.

Once you have a tag and have done your shopping, deliver them to Memorial Hall no later than **Thursday, December 17th. Please leave them unwrapped, but attach the tag.** The gifts you buy will be wrapped and delivered for you!

You are not obligated to purchase all items on the tag; all we ask is that these folks have something to open on Christmas Day.

If you would like to pull a tag and send a monetary donation, we will be happy to shop for you! Just indicate in the check memo line "Caring Tree Tag" along with the **identification on the tag** so we can connect the two. If you don't want to "pull" a tag...please feel free to send a check with the same notation on the memo line and we'll make sure your donation will help a family have a Merry Christmas.

If you have any questions, please contact me (Vera Smith) at 471-9157.

Our team is proud to facilitate this outreach on your behalf to insure our brothers and sisters in Christ are remembered this Christmas.



ADVENT ACTIVITY KITS

Fr. Charlie and Cynthia delivered 22 Advent activity kits for families in the parish with children at home. They included the four candles they needed to make an Advent wreath, a short devotional for the Sundays of Advent, and crafts and activities for the young and the young at heart.

If you've already got an Advent wreath lying around and would like a copy of the devotional, let us know and we'd be happy to send it to you!



ALL SAINTS' PRAYER CHAIN

"What is a prayer chain?" you ask. A prayer chain is a group of people dedicated to intercessory prayer, that is, receiving prayer requests on behalf of others, praying immediately (or as soon as possible) for that request, and then forwarding the prayer request on to the next person in the chain. The way the prayer chain at All Saints' currently operates is when a prayer request comes in, the first person on the prayer chain receives the request and starts the "circle" spinning. Once they have completed their prayers they call the next person on the list. When the second person has completed their prayers they call the next person and so on and so on. The last person in the chain calls the first person which is the signal that the prayers have made it all the way around the circle.



Are you interesting in becoming part of our prayer chain ministry? Would you like to, but are concerned that you're not home all day or worried because you can't receive personal calls at work? Are you unsure if you have what it takes to be part of the prayer chain? Consider this: Have you ever read a post from one of your Facebook friends in which they say their spouse or child or pet is sick and asks everyone for prayers? If you took a moment to pray for your friend, then you just participated in a prayer chain. So if you are interested, but are worried that you aren't always immediately available, have no fear, we are looking at creative ways to update and reorganize our prayer chain structure to allow for everyone to participate who feels called to engage in this ministry.

Do you have a prayer request for which you'd like to have the prayer chain pray? Prayer requests are kept confidential within the chain. You can provide as much or as little information as you'd like. (For example, "I'm going in for heart surgery this week" or "I am struggling with an issue and just need extra prayers".) Kay Lorenz (862-3248) is the head of the prayer chain and you can call her directly to get the prayer chain started. If you have any questions about the prayer chain or are interested in this ministry, please call Shawn at the office 862-2863 (or cell phone 291-3613).

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of All Saints' shall be held, as our bylaws state, in January at a time and place designated by the Wardens and the Vestry. And as also noted in our bylaws, "The purpose of this meeting shall be to receive the Annual Reports of the Rector (or Warden in Charge), the Parish Treasurer, and all organizations and activities of the Parish; to elect members to the Vestry, and delegates and alternates to the Diocesan Convention, and to conduct other business as may properly come before such annual parish meeting."

So be on the lookout for information from the Vestry announcing when and where this year's annual meeting will take place. And if you are interested in becoming a member of the vestry or a delegate to Diocesan Convention, feel free to talk to any member of the Vestry for more information.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

In this unsettled time we wish we could say with certainty what Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will look like. But unfortunately that is just not the case. However, the staff and laity are working diligently to try and put together an outdoor Christmas vigil and bonfire in the woods, where we will be able to maintain social distance, as well as a closed-set virtual service where we will be able to sing carols to our hearts' content. Stay tuned, for there is always hope. "...and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit..." Romans 5:5



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

We are having a Christmas Pageant this year! All kids and youth are invited to participate.

We will be recording parts remotely and our amazing technical genius Shawn Sloan will be putting them together. We will get started on this in the next couple of weeks so that we can put it all together in time for Christmas. Since families will be recording a short video at home (using a phone is great!) we won't need to have rehearsals. We'll send you directions and the script and if you need any technical assistance we'll gladly help. We're taking this opportunity to do something original and different to tell the Christmas story, and we cannot wait!



Time is running out to get in on the fun! **Please notify Cynthia by Sunday, December 6th, if you wish to be part of the pageant.** cynthia@allsaintsmt.org.

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY

This year Bradley Wirth, our Rector Emeritus, is planning to read "A Christmas Offertory" from Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Missoula. While a final date and time has not yet been selected, the reading will take place virtually and will be offered to the Diocese at large. For those who have not heard it, this is Bradley's original work which centers around a homeless man left with no hope and a handful of animals who are drawn together in a most unlikely way on Christmas Eve.



Over the last sixteen years the reading of this story has been a tradition at All Saints' and several other churches around the Diocese.

It has been the custom that an offering is taken at these readings to benefit various animal shelters and you are encouraged to remember some of All Saints' favorites, those being The Humane Society, Friends of the Flathead County Animal Shelter, RezQ Dogs and the Flathead Spay and Neuter Task Force.

The story has an inherent message that isolation can be shattered by our caring for one another which, during these times of COVID, is unusually welcome news.

Bradley is currently working on a sequel to "A Christmas Offertory" entitled "Mr. Maxwell's Observatory", which has a story line that lasts for less than a day and begins the 12th Day of Christmas. It is hoped it might be ready for a virtual reading around Epiphany, January 6th.

Watch for a notice via email for more details on the date and time for "A Christmas Offertory" as well as more information on Bradley's newest story.

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Many congratulations to Jenanne Solberg, our brilliant pianist and church musician, who was recently named Montana's Outstanding Music Educator by the National Federation of State High School Associations!

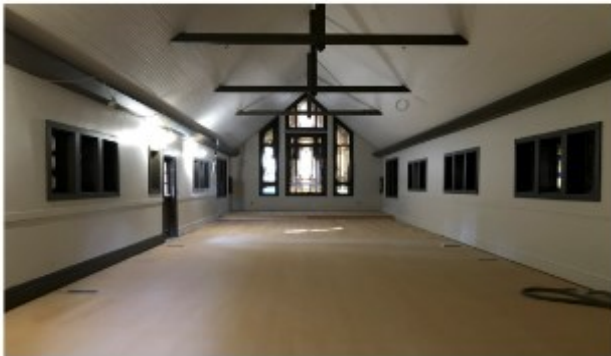
"O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

[Daily Inter Lake](#)



BUILDING UPDATES

November building project highlights



Oct 31 - floor ready to be stained



Nov 3 - floor stained and 1st coat of sealant



Nov 3 - last section of fiber optics connected



Nov 3 - fiber makes it into the building



Nov 4 - floor sealant continues to dry



Nov 5 - new railings



Nov 5 - new railings installed



New tan vinyl for kneelers & fabric for pews

BUILDING UPDATES (CONT'D)

November building project highlights



Nov 5-floor covered to protect for more painting



Nov 8 - trim painting continues



Nov 8 - baseboards & window frames painted



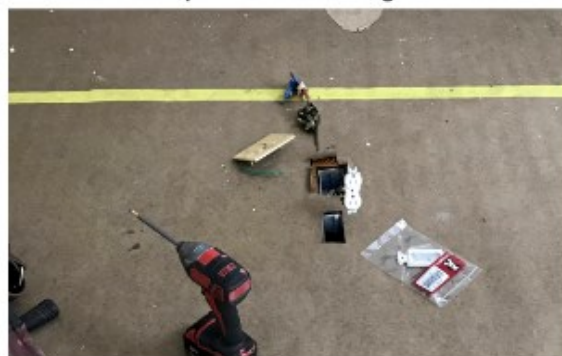
Nov 10 - roofing on overhangs



Nov 9 - last part of new roof gets installed



Nov 10 - paper removed & painting continues



Nov 10 - outlets for pulpit microphone

BUILDING UPDATES (CONT'D)

November building project highlights



Nov 11 - new emergency lights inside/outside



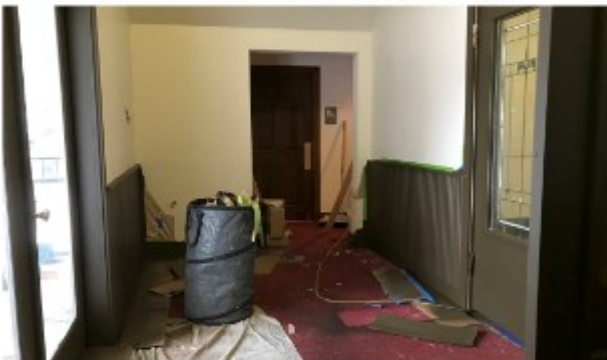
Nov 11 - window frames painting continues



Nov 12 - detail painting continues



Nov 13 - kneelers being recovered



Nov 13 - bead board painted in narthex



Nov 13 - fiber optics connected in church YAY!

BUILDING UPDATES (CONT'D)

November building project highlights



Nov 13 - indirect cove lighting



Nov 13 - indirect cove lighting



Nov 15 - cleaned up for Sunday service



Nov 18 - fiber optics in memorial hall



Nov 19 - windows cleaned up - nice view!!



Nov 19 - screens and hardware installed



Nov 22 - picture rail installed



Nov 22 - picture rail installed

BUILDING UPDATES (CONT'D)

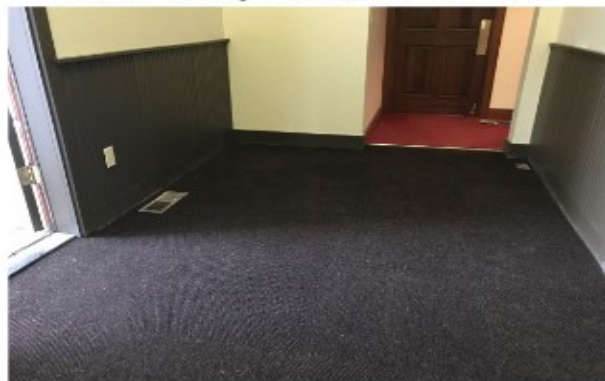
November building project highlights



Nov 24 - floor gets final coat of sealant



Nov 25 - floor dries



Nov 25 - new carpet in the narthex



Nov 29 - Wise men begin their journey towards the creche



Nov 29 - Gifts to the creche



Nov 29 - Advent wreath



DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	4	5
6 Coffee Hour 12:00-1:00 pm Creche offering: food for food banks	7 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	8 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	9 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon	10 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	11	12
13 Coffee Hour 12:00-1:00 pm Creche offering: pet food	14 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	15 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	16 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon	17 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm Book Group 6:00-7:00pm	18	19
20 Coffee Hour 12:00-1:00 pm Vestry Meeting 12:30 pm Creche offering: warm, new clothing	21 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	22 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	23 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon	24 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm	25 	26
27 Coffee Hour 12:00-1:00 pm	28 Office Hours 11:00-12:00pm 2:00-3:00 pm	29 Office Hour 5:00pm-6:00pm	30 Bible Study 10:30-12 noon	31 Office Hour 11:00-12:00pm		

COVID-19 SERVICE CHANGES AND PRECAUTIONS

CHANGES TO OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

- * ON NOVEMBER 16TH IN A PASTORAL DIRECTIVE FROM BISHOP MARTY, DUE TO THE LOGARITHMIC INCREASE OF COVID CASES IN MONTANA, ALL IN PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE DIOCESE WERE SUSPENDED AND ALL PARISHES WERE DIRECTED TO MOVE WORSHIP SERVICES TO VIRTUAL OR OUTSIDE UNTIL AT LEAST NOVEMBER 29TH. AFTER NOV. 29TH THE BISHOP WILL EVALUATE THE SITUATION ON A WEEKLY BASIS AND THEN BASED ON THE NUMBER OF CASES IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH A PARTICULAR PARISH IS LOCATED, SHE WILL MAKE A DECISION FOR EACH PARISH.
- * ALL SAINTS' WILL CONTINUE TO BOTH LIVE-STREAM A SERVICE AT 9 A.M. AND DISTRIBUTE COMMUNION FROM 10 - 11:30 A.M. IN THE PARKING LOT.
- * PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE OR CALL THE OFFICE TO FIND OUT IF SERVICES ARE BEING HELD.
- * THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND FLEXIBILITY DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. REMEMBER WE DO THIS OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION TO PROTECT OUR ELDERS, LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS, AND SUPPORT OUR MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

PLEDGE UPDATE

By Fr. Charlie

2021 Pledge Campaign by the numbers:

42 pledges (so far).
\$149,620 pledged (so far).
8 new pledges

About 19 more pledges needed.
\$216,548 pledged in 2020.



If you're still discerning what you would like to pledge, we encourage you to do so.

But if you have made up your mind, if you could send in your pledge ASAP, it'll help us get to the other side of the holiday season with a good plan and a good budget for 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email Fr. Charlie (801.635.5162) or cknuth@allsaintsmt.org.

HOME COMMUNION AND VISITATIONS

If you have had to take some time away from church, but would like to receive the sacrament, please let us know! While the bishop has requested that clergy refrain from scheduling home visits, (hospitals and senior living facilities won't allow them either!), Fr. Charlie would be more than happy to bring you the sacrament/say prayers with you on your doorstep, the hospital parking lot, or at the church.

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION**

Church location:
2048 Conn Road
Columbia Falls, MT
Phone: 406-862-2863

Church mailing address:
PO Box 1923
Whitefish, MT 59937

Rector: Reverend Charlie Knuth
Email: cknuth@allsaintsmt.org
Cell: 801-635-5162

Parish Administrator: Shawn Sloan
Email: allsaintsmt@gmail.com
Cell: 406-291-3613

Christian Formation Minister/Children and
Youth: Cynthia Benkelman
Email: cynthia@allsaintsmt.org
Cell: 406-261-9636

*Glory to God, whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine: Glory to him from generation to
generation in the church, and in Christ
Jesus forever. and ever.*

Find us here:

Just click on the link!

Facebook link: [https://
www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt)

YouTube link: [http://
www.youtube.com/channel/
UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA)

Webpage link: [http://
www.allsaintsmt.org](http://www.allsaintsmt.org)

Vestry Members

Rector: Reverend Charlie Knuth
Senior Warden: Leif Peterson
Junior Warden: Grace Benkelman
Treasurer: Carl Thomas
Clerk: Kathy Thomas
Cynthia Benkelman
Betsy Paugh
Heidi Sobczak
Henry Stamm

Diocese of Montana:
Marty Stebbins, X Bishop of Montana
www.diomontana.com

E-letter editor: Jan Rayford
khatlover@msn.com or
origkhatlover@gmail.com