We Welcome Kurtis Arndt as Our New Youth Ministry Director

Kurtis Arndt has joined the Alleluia! Staff as Youth Ministry Director, overseeing the Middle School H2H Program and the High School AYHigh Program. Kurtis is a 2020 graduate of Valparaiso University with a B.A. in Theology and Ministry and a minor in Communications. He graduated as a member of the National Honor Society for Theology and Religious Studies, Theta Alpha Kappa.

His experience includes work as Youth Minister at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church in Huntley, IL, Outreach Program Manager at Lutherdale Bible Camp in Elkhorn, WI, as well as Counselor and Ministry Coordinator at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon, IL. Kurtis will be working part-time this summer and moving to full time in August. Welcome, Kurtis!

The Alleluia! Website is Getting a NEW LOOK!

Check it out beginning on July 5th!

alleluialutheran.org

Many thanks to Kelly Cunningham, Bobby Effner, and Sharon Wynne for the numerous hours spent on this project!

SAVE the DATE!
Sunday, Aug. 20th

Taste of Alleluia!
Details coming Soon!

A! SUMMER to Connect

FUN SOCIAL EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

JULY/AUGUST SCHEDULE PAGE 5
Hallowed Be Your Summer

Veteran viewers of the game show Jeopardy were shocked a few weeks ago when all three contestants failed to guess the answer to a question involving the Lord’s Prayer. “Our Father, which art in heaven, [blank] be thy name,” was the question. No one came up with the missing word “hallowed.” Viewers posting on social media quickly lamented this apparent evidence of the decline in churchgoing and in knowledge of the Bible.

Admittedly, “hallowed,” which means “made or treated as holy” is not a familiar word in our culture. Which is too bad, because the reality is something important to being human. If we don’t experience and treat some things as holy and filled with mystery (God to begin with!), that really is something to lament.

Part of being human is to have moments when we see the world shining with the brilliance and power of God. Such an experience is beautiful and moving, but also a bit terrifying, because in it we sense a power far beyond our understanding or control.

When we encounter the holy, we typically are reduced to silence and filled with awe and wonder. The chatter in our mind stops. This can happen when we look out over the rim of the Grand Canyon, stand next to a waterfall, watch the waves of the ocean crash against the shore, see a night sky filled with stars, or listen to sublime music. Sometimes the holy appears when we look closely at something small and ordinary, like a bird’s feather or a flower, and marvel at the intricate design. The appropriate response in each case is awe and wonder.

Summer is a time when many of us get to spend more time outdoors, or experience the world at a slower pace, and so it can be a time when we are more aware of the mystery of the world and the holiness of God. Such experiences have a deep impact beyond words. They have a way of renewing our minds with creative power and filling our hearts with joy. Awareness of the holiness of God seeps into our souls through the beauty of creation. Whatever your summer holds, may it be hallowed in these ways, and many others besides!

Faithfully,
Pastor David

Alleluia! has been a long time mission partner of Compassion International, and over the years our membership has sponsored over 200 children. This spring nine more children in Peru were blessed by sponsors from Alleluia!, including one young girl who will be sponsored by Little Blessings. Below are just a few of the new Compassion sponsors. Thank you, Alleluia!, for stepping up and changing lives!
Reminder!
We will NOT have KidsConnect on Sunday, July 2nd.
Please enjoy worship together as a family!

Youth Volunteers Needed!
Youth Volunteers are needed for Summer KidsConnect! Can you help us on some Sunday mornings?
Please CLICK HERE for a link where you can select the dates you are available. Thank you for your help this summer!

Please Join Us for these Fun A! Summer to Connect Events Happening in July:

- Friday, July 7th, 4-5pm: Chalk Messages with Snack at Alleluia! for ages Preschool-Middle School.
- Monday, July 17th, 4-6pm: Bingo Night with Moms in the CLC for ages Preschool-Middle School.
- Sunday, July 30th, following the 10:30am service: Dads, Donuts, and Dodgeball in the gym for ages Kindergarten-Middle School.

VBS 2023 Ready, Set, Move! was Amazing!
Alleluia! welcomed 240 children into our building for a week of fun! Kids discovered that Jesus is with them here, there, and EVERYWHERE! Thank you to the 88 volunteers that helped throughout the week! VBS could not happen without you!

Many thanks to those who donated supplies and time to help prepare for VBS! A special shout out to Wendy Ploense and Tawni Cramer for their countless hours of time working on the decorations. Everything looked amazing! We passed along some of our decorations to another church so that their kids could enjoy them and have an enhanced VBS experience also!

Our VBS Mission Event for the week was to collect food and items for Loaves and Fishes. We filled two shopping carts and two tables! WOW! Great job!

Please enjoy the photos on pages 6 & 7 from our week of VBS!

Seeking an Organizer! Ms. April is looking for help putting her supply closets pack together now that VBS is over. If this is something you’d be willing to help with, please contact April at ablair@alleluia.church.
The following is a snapshot of ways we will be celebrating music in July!

Children will be singing throughout the summer! Please keep checking your email for further information!

All are WELCOME...if you love to sing...join our Praise Choir! One mic, LOTS of VOICES! Please contact Michele if you are interested!

Drummer Encore takes place on Sundays in between services (come to learn to lead worship on the drums).

Alleluia! Jam Night takes place in the sanctuary every 3rd Thursday. Come to “jam” or check out our amazing worship team. Please consider joining the fun!

S.O.S. Singers (or Players) offer special music or help lead worship! Summer is a GREAT TIME to share the musical gift that God gave you!

Song Requests! Send requests for songs you’d like to hear during summer worship. We’ll do our best! Please send requests to Michele.

For the younger children...Music ‘N Me with Ms. Michele resumed on June 22nd. Please contact Ms. Michele for schedule information.

Private Music Lessons for summer have begun! We currently offer saxophone, beginning brass, clarinet, flute, piano, and voice lessons! Contact Michele Nelson with ANY questions!

Please TAKE NOTE! Both Children’s Choirs, K3, and Connect45 will resume on Wednesday, September 13th.

Please contact Michele Nelson at mnelson@alleluia.church for info on any of the above items!

A.S.K. BOARD

Summers are a busy time but don’t forget to take a moment to check out our ASK Board as we are always adding new items. We are so very thankful for your generosity.

This summer we will do a deep clean and restocking of our commercial kitchen. Just like in your home there are many items needed to fill the cupboards. If you are shopping and wish to pick up any of these needed supplies we would greatly appreciate it! Please drop off items in the church office.

- Dixie Brand (or similar sturdy quality) Small Paper Plates, 6-7/8”
- Dixie Brand (or similar sturdy quality) Dinner Paper Plates, 8-1/2”
- Dixie Brand (or similar sturdy quality) Paper Bowls, 12 ounce
- Dixie Brand (or similar sturdy quality) Paper Bowls, 20 ounce
- Kirkland Brand (or similar sturdy quality) Plastic Cups, 18 ounce
- If you are able to volunteer for the kitchen clean-up the week of July 24th please contact Carole Krush at carolekrush@gmail.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>Chalk Messages w/ Snack</td>
<td>Preschool thru MS</td>
<td>4:00-5:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed.</td>
<td>Ice Cream Night w/ Gaga Ball</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>7:00-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>Bingo Night w/ Moms</td>
<td>Preschool thru MS</td>
<td>4:00-6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Nerf Night</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>5:45-6:45pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>6:45-7:15/Underground</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lower Level</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>7:15-8:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun.</td>
<td>Dads, Donuts &amp; Dodgeball</td>
<td>K thru MS</td>
<td>After 10:30 Service until 1pm/Gym</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Ice Cream Night w/ Gaga Ball</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>7:00-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>Gaga Ball w/ Bonfire</td>
<td>MS/HS</td>
<td>7:00-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Painting Rocks w/ Snack</td>
<td>Preschool thru HS</td>
<td>4:00-5:30pm</td>
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**Sundays**

- Open Gym
- All Ages
- **after 9:00am service ‘til 12:30pm**

**Wednesdays**

- Open Gym
- Preschool thru MS
- **2:00-4:00**
- All youth must be accompanied by an adult

**Watch for updates in the Weekly Email BLAST**

- **Gym closed for refinishing 6/28-7/13**
- ***MS also includes incoming Middle Schoolers***

Alleluia! Fall Craft and Vendor Market - Save the Date!

—for a Fall Craft Fair at Alleluia! on **September 16, 2023**!

If you are a vendor and are interested in having a booth at the market, please email Jenn Vrba at **events@SimplyEmbellished.net** for more information.
We invite you to worship with us!

Sunday Morning
In-Person Worship
at
9:00am & 10:30am
All are welcome!