



Salem Connection

August 2024

Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444
Phone: 218.534.3309 Email: office@salemdwd.org Website: www.salemdwd.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/salemlutheranchurchdeerwood



What a busy and wonderful July we hosted, people of Salem! It always amazes me what we accomplish when we offer our hands and hearts to the community in service and love!

Our first thank you goes to the hearts and hands that contributed to Salem and Immanuel's Vacation Bible School mid-July. First, it was a gift to share this ministry together with other siblings in Christ. VBS was a week of care, a dash of crazy, a whole lot of imagination, and resulted in 70 children experiencing God's presence in love, trust, and compassion.

At the end of the week, we tried something new with a block party and battle of the bands. As we stood baking in the parking lot on the hot, sunny day, we welcomed around 200 – 250 people in the 7 hour span of the event. We learned a lot and brainstormed ideas of how to improve and offer what our community may need in future Summerfest/Deerwood events. Our second thank you goes to the small crew that planned it and the 50 volunteers who brought beverages, cornhole boards, sat at the food and children's activity booths, and came through to enjoy the music.

Our third thank you goes to those who are finding ways to serve the church community and the greater Deerwood/Crosby/Ironton/Garrison area. The Spiritual Gifts/Stewardship team's visuals on our acts of service was inspiring to behold, and there's more in this newsletter about those results. I am honored and humbled to be part of a group of people so deeply invested in their community.

Now, following the example of Jesus, it is time to rest from that work. August is a month of rest, fellowship, study, prayer, and being fed and nurtured by God's love. Our Scriptures will all come from John 6, the "Bread of Life" chapter. We will see how God meets us in the meal to promise true bread and true drink, that which nourishes not just our bodies but our spirits.

As we rest and as we work, we are encouraged by Paul in Galatians 6, "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

There is much ahead of us, Salem. This fall we will renew our commitment to faithfully share the mortgage. We will be nominating new leadership for the Church, Outreach, and Memorial teams. We will host community events that combat isolation. We will do God's good work on behalf of all. So for now, let us rest in God's presence with joy and gratitude for all God has done through our hands.

Deeply inspired by you,
~Pastor Amanda

Faith Formation!

As summer winds down, although many are sad the fun in the sun is coming to a close, we are excited to be getting back into the routine of Sunday School and Kids Club here at Salem!

Sunday School materials will be emailed at the end of each week for families who may not be able to attend on Sunday morning. Sunday school gathers at the conclusion of worship which not only helps children experience all of worship (they absorb more than you know!) but to also give their parents some precious time to connect with other adults.



Sunday School Schedule

Each Sunday at 9:50a.m.

Starting September 15th

Faith formation is putting together a schedule for Kids Club this fall so we can invite CI's 3-6 graders at their August back-to-school event! If you have a skill you'd like to teach, a hobby to introduce, a cause you care about, consider leading an hour of Kids Club in your activity! We have open spots on November 13, March 12, or April 9.

Contact the Church Office if you are interested in filling one of those dates!



Kids Club 2024-2025 School Year

Kids Club will be starting the second Wednesday in September, the 11th! Kids Club is a once a month after school activity for children in grades 3-6!

Lunch Bunch nearing the end of its season

At the time of this newsletter, there are still five Fridays that Salem will be providing meals to area children and youth, those dates are listed below! It has been a wonderful summer with many hands at work in the kitchen. Thank you to all those who stopped in to help prepare.

Look for our ministry summary in October's newsletter!

Summer 2024

Making a difference one lunch bag at a time!



Some Lunch Bunch Volunteers

7/28/24



Dates for this Summer!

August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

ITEMS NEEDED

- Individually Wrapped Rice Krispies
- Individually Bagged Goldfish
- Creamy Peanut Butter
- Grape Jelly
- Fruit Roll -Ups
- Fruit Cups

Any Other Pack-Lunch Items!

Worship Notes at Salem

Thank you to those serving in August:

READERS

- 4 Myron Midthun
- 11 _____
- 18 Wayne Brezina
- 25 Ken Stebbins

USHERS

- 4 Ed & Sherri Godfrey, Curt and Sylvia Hoge
- 11 Randy Holmwig, Herb and Barb Schoon, Mark Boike
- 18 Roger and Marlene Prill, Clark and Joyce Marshall
- 25 Nory and Peggy Hunze, Chuck Lubowitz and Karla Peterson

COMMUNION SERVERS

- 4 Carol and Wayne Brezina
- 11 _____, _____, _____
- 18 _____, _____, _____
- 25 _____, _____, _____

OFFERING COUNTERS

Shirley Huxford and Myron Midthun

August Worship Schedule

- 4 9:00a.m. Worship
- 11 8:30a.m. Choir Practice
9:00a.m. Worship
- 18 9:00a.m. Worship
- 25 9:00a.m. Worship

Summer Music Schedule:

Choir sings on the 2nd Sunday
practice 2nd Sunday at 8:30a.m.

Lord's Prayer Sung during worship

1st and 3rd Sundays

Hymn Sing before worship

2nd and 4th Sundays

Heartwood Bible Study

The monthly Bible study at Heartwood will take place on August 12th at 1:00p.m.

These studies include Communion, so invite others along!



Meals on Wheels takes place on Thursdays

CRMC Worship takes place on Sundays at 1:30p.m.

These events take place each Sunday and Thursday each week of the 12 months of the year, listed below are the times Salem is hosting.

Month	CRMC Worship	Meals on Wheels
August	Sunday 8/25	Thursday 8/29

Women's Retreat

Join us for a weekend of fun and getting to know other women in our congregation and some women from First Lutheran in St. Paul! This will take place the last weekend in

September – 27, 28 & 29!

Mark your calendars and watch for more information to come!



Fall Music Schedule

Wednesdays Beginning
September 4th

Bells will practice Wednesdays at 5:00p.m.

Choir will practice Wednesdays at 6:00p.m.



Where Does the Time Go?

**Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace.
I Peter 4:10**

Did you put your coins in jars for the last month to represent volunteer time? Did you see how many coins that there were? Volunteers logged almost 1900 hour from June 23rd through July 21st.

Salem Church and Outreach are so blessed. Members placed \$13.19 in coins in the Salem jar. This represents approximately 1300 hours. Many volunteered during VBS and at the Salem Block Party last Saturday to have fun with our neighbors. Salem is so blessed to have so many volunteers who generously give of their time to allow our church to carry out our mission to Welcome people to Jesus Christ, Equip them with a faith that works in their lives, and Send them into the world in Jesus' name.

Salem members also volunteered in the community with Interfaith Care Givers, Northern Lakes Rescue, Cuyuna Range Lions and Bay Lake and Garrison Lions, registration for the Runtilla, visiting at Heartwood, rebuilding a handicap ramp, making and distributing lunches for Lunch Bunch, working at the Cuyuna Range Food Shelf, shopping for elderly, the Women's Cancer Association, Deerwood Civic and Commerce, and distributing meals in the church parking lot. \$5.82 was contributed into the community jar, representing approximately 580 hours.

The money collected will be used to purchase food for the Little Free Pantry in our parking lot.

Thank you for all you do to be Jesus' hands and feet in our community.

Faith and Fellowship



Men's Bible Study

Interested in joining a Bible Study?

There are many options to pick from for anyone looking to engage in study and fellowship with others in the congregation and community!

Tuesdays at 6:30p.m. Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays at 3:00p.m. Women's Bible Study

Pictured to the left: Men's Bible Study, which meets Fridays at 8:00a.m.

There are still spots open, join us any morning, evening or afternoon that works best for you!

Caring for One Another

Members, Staff, and Friends of Salem Lutheran Church,

Your prayers, words of comfort, deeds, and gifts, have been graciously accepted by Louie and I during these trying times. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! Every kind word, hug, and tribute has been accepted and helpful in walking this chapter in our lives. As it has been sad, the Lord only gives what we can handle, well we are still here, He's Right! Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers, we have a few more steps to go!

God's Love to All,

- Louie and Ma Orr

Special Celebrations in August



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

1	Barbara Schmidt	17	Donna Grunzke
4	JoAnn Cordie		Debbie MacKay
7	Carol Brezina	19	Karla Peterson
	Ellen Uglem		Rose Steinke
8	Pat Sylvester	23	Laurie Ogard
9	Audrey Birkliid	25	Shirlee Bengston
11	Noelle Jones		Patricia Kahnert
	Ron Martin	26	Joyce Marshall
12	John Cragun	27	Jessica Jones
	Jason Jones		Shelia Mayne
	Ron Sikkema	28	Audrey Anderson
13	Teddy Skattum		Mary Jo Schoenike
	Greg Skeim	30	Carol Blomberg
14	Carla Kewatt		Nancy Tighe
	Cecil Schmidt	31	Harold Kahnert
15	Megan Syrstad		



1	Jay and Sue Stromberg
4	Nory and Peggy Hunze
5	Peter and Debbie MacKay
	Roger and Marlene Prill
6	LeRoy and Helen Ryan
7	Jeff and Heidi Mitchell
10	Brad and Kay Johnson
12	Jerry and Shirley Huxford
13	Glen and Nikki Knutson
19	Al and Janet Niemann
21	Paul and Diane Hein
	Jason and Amber Holmwig
22	David and Rose Steinke
25	Jason and Jessica Jones

Financial Updates

Benevolences for June

\$1,917.40 Synod ELCA
 \$64.50 Missionary Support
 \$64.50 Voyagers Lutheran Ministry
 \$2,046.40 Total

Thank you for the continuous generosity shown through offering here at Salem Lutheran!

Information Provided by Aimee Watson
 Financial Manager here at Salem

Salem Lutheran Church Profit & Loss June 2024

	100 Church	150 Building	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Offerings	27,285.34	0.00	27,285.34
4100 · Building Fund	0.00	7,647.70	7,647.70
4900 · Other Income	2,080.03	147.32	2,227.35
Total Income	29,365.37	7,795.02	37,160.39
Gross Profit	29,365.37	7,795.02	37,160.39
Expense	29,820.12	10,000.00	39,820.12
Net Ordinary Income	(454.75)	(2,204.98)	(2,659.73)
Net Income	(454.75)	(2,204.98)	(2,659.73)

2024 Salem Lutheran Church Directories! Still Available for Pick-Up in the Church Office!

Directory Costs: \$698.90

Donations: \$367.00

Remaining Costs: \$331.90

If you would like a directory or would just like to make a donation to offset the printing price, stop by the church office OR place the funds in the offering baskets, allocating that they are directory funds!

Salem Outreach Governing Board – June 11, 2024

Present were: Pastor Amanda Kempthorne, Jason Kempthorne, Sherri Godfrey, Cathy Aykens, Diane Boike, Randy Sykes, Kay Bendorf, and Linda Sudman. Guest, Mark Boike

MSC: Motion was made, seconded, motion carried.

Opened with a prayer by Pastor Amanda.

Secretary report was emailed to board members. MSC

Financial report was approved. MSC

Mustard Seed: Mustard Seed Sales for May \$ 42,946.00

Salem West Impact Report for May; we had 68 referrals and completed 47 orders. A total of 83 individuals were helped. There has been \$148,300 in goods delivered to the community year to date. The in kind impact

YTD is \$436,800.

External Communication: Audience on Facebook followers 3,215 and Instagram followers 521. Potential Audience 13,500 – Facebook Users Local.

The Mustard Seed will be on 3 different Radio Stations Starting July 2024. This ad will run for 3 months.

A new software system was put in place for the Outreach/Client service. This CRM software will help make sure all client orders are in place, served and completed.

Discussion was made to hire a Warehouse Associate, 24 hours a week. This person will help out in the warehouse and deliveries.

Kelly is no longer employed.

New hire: Terence and Cassie.

Discussion was made on the vehicles' use for delivery for Outreach Deliveries. The Suburban has no brakes and the back end of the vehicle is rusting through. The Cost for fixing it is over \$5,000. The Dodge Grand Caravan no longer runs. It needs a new transmission. Jason looked into a vehicle that would replace both vehicles.

The proposed vehicle is a used 2021 Chevrolet Box Truck, 51,000 miles. 7 person cab \$61,995.

Motion was made by Cathy Aykens to sell both the Suburban and the Mini Van. Diane Boike , second.

Motion was carried. MSC

Motion was made by Cathy Aykens to purchase a 2021 Cheverolet Box truck \$62,200.00. Diane Boike second. Motion was carried. MSC Motion was made by Cathy Aykens to use the West Vehicle Purchase account (account #2825). This account contains \$23,039.74, and then pull from the Initiative Revenue account (account #2837) to purchase the box truck. Whatever money is left from the purchase of the truck will go back into (#2837) Initiative Revenue. Diane Boike second. Motion was carried. MSC

Identity Discussion – Mission Statement will be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meeting July 23

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2024, 6:30 pm

We exist with God's help, to provide leadership for the Salem Lutheran Church Congregation.

MSC=The motion was seconded and carried.

- Call to Order

Members present: Pastor Amanda Kempthorne, Mark Boike, Lynn Hansen, Jason Kempthorne, Nathan VanRisseghem, Sherri Godfrey, Sylvia Hoge, Don Hales, Tina Royer, Julie Fritz.
Absent: Peter McKay

- Opening Prayer by Pastor Amanda

- Approval of Agenda: MSC

- Approval of May Minutes:

- Motion to approve minutes of May 27, 2024. MSC

- Approve Financials:

- ✓ Motion to approve May 2024 Treasurer's Report. MSC.

- Pastor's Report:

- Currently focusing on: 1). VBS Preparation; 2). Worship in the community, @ Heartwood, June 30, and @ CRMC, July 7; 3). Organizing and training Home Communion Visitors; and 4). Attend the BLACF Award ceremony on July 18.

- Outreach Report:

- Mustard Seed is financially on track to meet its 2024 income goals.
- Using outreach funds to purchase a delivery truck and enhance client services software to ensure better service.

- Old Business

- Block Party – Saturday, July 20 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm.
- ✓ We have 3 Bounce Houses, and a full slate of activities for children. There will be a fee for children to participate in all the activities with a wristband identifying those paid.
- ✓ We have purchased tents and have a trailer for the bands to perform.
- ✓ Still looking for Corn Hole sets for tournament.
- ✓ Toilets: The church will be open, so restrooms are available.
- Council sign up for June 30th worship in Serpent Park: Council members are needed to set up, make coffee and bring treats, assist worshippers in getting ready for the service, and helping them after the service.

- New Business:

- Memorial Committee Policy updates – A motion was made and seconded to accept updates made to the Committee Policy. MSC.
- 2nd quarter listening session topics for July – 2nd session is July 21st after the service. Topics to discuss: 1). Mortgage Clarification, Mark; 2). Financial handout of Envelope Giving; 3). A basic look at the 6 month Church's Profit and Loss; 4). 1 year financial and operating update on the Mustard Seed; 5). Capital Campaign – a look at outstanding funds; 6). Q & A.
- Cantata viability – Discussion on if we should continue the Christmas Cantata, and if so, how do we proceed? Salem budgets \$2,000 to the event, so what factors should we consider in terms of our decision? Pastor Amanda will provide interested Council members with an updated job description of Cantata Director, so we have a platform from which to proceed. The Council expressed unanimous support for the Cantata to move forward for the 2024 Christmas season.

Continued on the next page.

- Committee Reports:
 - Capital Appeal – Lynn Hansen. The committee will meet in July. The end of the campaign is November, and people can still make contributions to it.
 - Columbarium – Don Hales. The Columbarium flowers and planters look good. Will be finding someone to care for Schwanke gravesite per trust specifications. The committee is planning on holding its yearly meeting in July.
 - Facilities – Nate VanRisseghem. The committee is not sure of the Bank's responsibility with the parking lot upkeep, so is asking the council for direction. The cracks in the parking lot have been filled. Striping the parking lot can be delayed to save money, which the council agreed upon. Also, the committee is asking for direction about lighting in the Fellowship Hall. A motion was made and seconded to switch out one side (10 bulbs) of Fellowship Hall to bright white lights, then upon active feedback and approval from the different groups solicited, the Facilities Committee has the authority to purchase and install the appropriate lights. MSC.
 - Faith Formation – Sylvia Hoge. The next meeting is scheduled for July.
 - Memorial – Peter MacKay. 4 more requests for funding have been received for Church Camp.
 - Stewardship – Lynn Hansen. The committee has the interactive display ready to illustrate to the congregation how much and when they are involved.
 - Technology – Julie Fritz. The committee is meeting to identify its purpose and identify the technology needs of the church.
 - Welcome – Tina Royer. No Report.
 - Worship and Music – Julie Fritz. Summer worship music is filled. Committee is considering sung traditional liturgy in November.

SOS Submission – No submission.

- Announcements:
 - Executive Team meeting- July 16th at 3:00 pm. Council meeting- July 25th at 6:30 pm
 - A motion was made to adjourn at 8:00pm. MSC
 - Closed in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Royer



August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00am Worship	29	30 9:00am Piecemakers 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	31 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	1	2 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	3
4 9:00am Worship 1:30pm Drum Group Practice	5	6 9:00am Piecemakers 5:45pm Capital Appeal Meeting 6:00pm Faith Formation 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	7 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	8	9 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	10 9:00am Serpent Lake Association Meeting
11 8:30am Choir Practice 9:00am Worship	12 1:00pm Bible Study at Heartwood	13 9:00am Piecemakers 3:00pm Executive Team Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	14 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	15 6:00pm Cuyuna Range Lions Meeting	16 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	17
18 9:00am Worship	19 11:00am Catholic Charities Meal Distribution	20 9:00am Piecemakers 1:00pm Outreach Governing Board Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	21 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	22 6:30pm Council Meeting	23 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	24
25 9:00am Worship	26	27 9:00am Piecemakers 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	28 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	29	30 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	31

SALEM'S STAFF

Pastor	Amanda Kempthorne	pastoramanda@salemdwd.org
Office Manager	Grace Reininger	office@salemdwd.org
Financial Manager	Aimee Watson	finance@salemdwd.org
Praise Team Coordinators	Becky Klingelhofer and Noreen Steinbrecher	
Pianist/Organist	Becky Klingelhofer	
Salem Ringers & Choir Director	Kevin Edstrom	kevin7903@hotmail.com
Building & Grounds	Dan Quinn	facilities@salemdwd.org
Cleaning Team	4 & 47 Cleaners, Aitkin	
Director of Outreach	Jason Kempthorne	outreach@salemdwd.org
Mustard Seed Manager	Jacob Walker	mustardseed@salemdwd.org
Seed and Donation Manager	Holly Willert	west@salemdwd.org
Mustard Seed Team Lead	Debbie Olson	