



Salem Connection

July 2024

Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444
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Story time about Pastor Amanda! I have been doubly trained to be a pastor according to two different denominations! For my undergrad, I attended Northwestern Bible College in Roseville (now University of Northwestern) and signed up for their Pastoral Studies degree. When I graduated, I was considered fully qualified to pastor a church (minus the fact I'm a woman, but that's a story for another day). But I was a Lutheran, and to be a Lutheran pastor, I needed a master's degree from a seminary. So off I went – to a vastly different educational experience.

One thing both of those institutions required was internship time in a congregation with a mentor. You already know I served for a year at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Dave Holte on 6th Street in Brainerd. But in college, I helped out with the youth program at Shepherd of the Hills in Shoreview.

I knew that church from a ministry called TEC – Teens Encounter Christ (a kid version of Via de Christo). My mentor was the youth director, Dan. I'm pretty sure Dan didn't know what to do with me, and I had no idea what to expect of a mentor. We started with a devotional book about leadership. We'd team teach a confirmation lesson and then reflect on what worked and what didn't. Eventually, he started asking me questions about the ministry I was interested in and share his own passion for God and people. We'd reflect together on how our approaches came from what we cared about.

I don't remember any great pearls of wisdom (sorry, Dan) but he gave me the space and the nudge to think deeply about what I wanted my own ministry to look like, to help me define my own priorities, to help me reflect, and to encourage me when what I tried fell flat.

I think the church needs more people like Dan. We all need people who have “been there” to walk alongside us, to ask us questions about why we're doing what we're doing, to dream together about what might be, and encourage each other to try those new things. It doesn't take a degree, doesn't even take training. Just takes a humble and open heart to encourage the next generation.

I have been deeply blessed by the people who have invested in my life, in my character, in my skills, and who have helped shape who I am and who I am still becoming. I give thanks for Pastor John, Corinna, Dan, Pastor Dave, and you, people of Salem – you are on that list.

This month, I celebrate my 15th year of ordination on July 12. I would be honored if you would sign my certificate as the people who are walking alongside me in this crazy journey of trusting God. We most certainly don't do this “faith thing” alone!

Walking with you,
~Pastor Amanda



Faith Formation!

Vacation Bible School 2024

Bible Stories!

Songs!

Crafts!



New Friends!



Ages 3-12 • July 15-18 • Free for All!

9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

Register Online
www.salemdwd.org



**Online Registration Ends
Friday, July 12th!**

Register today to join in on the fun as we dive into friendship with God!

We will need help cleaning up all the fun the week of VBS brings on Thursday afternoon, July 18th as well as Friday morning, July 19th as we prepare for our Block Party on Saturday, July 20th!

Mark Your Calendars!

Join us on Saturday, July 20th for a Block Party!
Battle of the Bands, Kids Activities,
Food and More!

The month of the Block Party is FINALLY here! (yay!) As the date is quickly approaching we are in need of some extra hands as we prepare for this event. This event is open to the community, so we want to show them just how fun it is to be apart of our Salem Lutheran Family!

Sign-up sheets are available in the hallway leading to the fellowship hall. Lots of spots still available, so check them out and sign-up for the one you feel would be the most fun!



Are you or someone you know in a band? Contact the Church Office to secure a spot to participate in the battle of the bands.

Best band wins \$500.00!

(218) 534-3309

SALEM LUTHERAN BLOCK PARTY



JULY 20TH - 11:00A.M.-6:00P.M.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us while we enjoy time together in fellowship with food and fun in the sun, enjoying one another's company while listening to some rockin' tunes!

Worship Notes at Salem

Thank you to those serving in July:

READERS

- 7 Jim Rude
- 14 Ken Stebbins
- 21 _____
- 28 Tina Royer

USHERS

- 7 Ed & Sherri Godfrey, Curt and Sylvia Hoge
- 14 Randy Holmwig, Herb and Barb Schoon, Mark Boike
- 21 Nory and Peggy Hunze, Clark and Joyce Marshall
- 28 Roger and Marlene Prill, Chuck Lubowitz and Karla Peterson

COMMUNION SERVERS

- 7 Kim Coughlin, Nory and Peggy Hunze
- 14 Gay and Doug Calkins, Kathi Sharp
- 21 Janine Mattfield, Andrea Anderson, _____
- 28 Tina Royer, Char Hausker, _____

OFFERING COUNTERS

Miron Midthun and Shirley Huxford

July Worship Schedule

- 7 9:00a.m. Worship
- 14 8:30a.m. Choir Practice
9:00a.m. Worship
- 21 9:00a.m. Worship
- 28 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 July 8th 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
July	Sunday 7/7	Thursday 7/11
August	Sunday 8/25	Thursday 8/29

We need ONE more Delivery Driver for the July 11th date!
10:45a.m.-12:00p.m.

Sunday July 21st After Worship

Join us after worship for the Quarter 2 (Q2) Listening Session with Council. Topics being discussed include a Financial Update, Mortgage Clarification, The Mustard Seed 1 year review, and a Q&A at the end!

**Mark
Your
Calendars!**



Where Does the Time Go?

Happening now until the 21st of July,
The Spiritual Gifts Team is giving a visual
representation of the hours of volunteering that
takes place at Salem as well as other places
members of our congregation share
their time with!



The money raised during the duration of this
project will be used to purchase items for the
Lil' Free Pantry here at Salem.

For each hour of volunteer time or task
completed, we ask that you place a coin in the
jars sitting atop the table in the Narthex. These
jars are labeled either Salem or Community,
place your coin or coins in the appropriate jar
that correlates with the time you spent. You may
use your own coins or the coins provided on the
table. Over the next few weeks watch as the jars
fill up as volunteers use coins to show their time
spent sharing their hours with either the church
or the community.

Faith and Fellowship

A Message from The Library

Summer is a great time to visit the Salem Library. When children don't have access to school libraries, there are books, movies, games and music to check out. Students who read regularly over the summer break retain their reading skills instead of slipping back. The cabinet with games can be a wonderful source of rainy day fun. Family movie nights are a good way to relax after busy days.

Books can provide "mini-vacation trips" to different locations and time periods. Taking turns reading chapters is a way to practice reading and acting out roles. Talk about each person's favorite characters and try to guess what will happen next to use your imagination.

A book by Anne Wilson titled **My Jesus - From Heartache to Hope** has been added to Salem's Library. When Anne Wilson was fifteen, her older brother, Jacob, died in an automobile accident. The Wilson family was deeply religious and the book chronicles their struggles in accepting Jacob's death.

Anne sings at her brother's funeral which ultimately leads to a career as a writer and singer of songs that draw others to Jesus. Her debut single "My Jesus" became the #1 Christian song of 2021.

This book will be featured in the library along with other new books, and then placed in the grief section of our Outreach Resource books. These books do not need to be checked out but can be used as long as needed and then returned.

Reviewed by Joyce Kohnen



Summer 2024

Making a difference one lunch bag at a time!

Dates for this Summer!

July 5, 12, 19, & 26

August 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

Join in on the fun each Friday morning at
9:00a.m. to help pack and deliver lunches!

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

Stop by the church office to pick up an updated directory, if you would like to make a donation to offset the printing cost that can be done at the same time, not a requirement though, all who would like a directory are encouraged to pick one up!

If you picked one up in the first week, stop by the office to pick up the stickers created for a few missing individuals, that were not printed in the directory!

Special Celebrations in July



1	Andrea Anderson	14	Ahreanna Chandler
2	Ruth Helgesen	18	Kim Coughlin
4	Lori Holmwig		Curt Gordon
5	Brian Sudman	22	Cindy Foote
6	Mary Erickson	23	Barb Ableson
	Joyce Kohlen	24	Gwendolyn Voller
8	Julie Fritz	26	Renee Voller
9	David Newton	27	Taylor Bordwell
10	Gloria Johnson		Marinell Holst
12	Time Foote	29	Sherri Godfrey
13	Maridee Smilich		Kari Henningson



1	Al and Barbara Schiffler
10	Randy and Cindy Sykes
13	Larry and Marinell Holst
23	Greg and Kathy Meyer
27	Tom and Nancy Reek
28	Ernie and Mary Erickson

Caring for One Another

Help keep the shelves stocked at the food shelf!

Our little food shelf, is small but mighty, and many individuals truly benefit from you who fill it weekly! Thank you and keep stocking those shelves, this is such a wonderful way to help the community!



Use your 2024 Salem Lutheran Church Directory and reach out to an individual you may not have been as closely in touch with recently. Extending the fellowship amongst one another past Sunday morning!



Financial Updates

Benevolences for May

\$1,383.55 Synod ELCA
 \$219.00 Missionary Support
 \$219.00 Voyagers Lutheran Ministry
 \$1,821.55 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 May 2024

	100 Church	150 Building	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Offerings	24,287.34	0.00	24,287.34
4100 · Building Fund	0.00	10,172.30	10,172.30
4900 · Other Income	2,407.92	152.66	2,560.58
Total Income	26,695.26	10,324.96	37,020.22
Gross Profit	26,695.26	10,324.96	37,020.22
Expense	33,691.32	10,000.00	43,691.32
Net Ordinary Income	(6,996.06)	324.96	(6,671.10)
Net Income	(6,996.06)	324.96	(6,671.10)

Salem Outreach Governing Board – May 21, 2024

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

MSC: Motion was made, seconded, motion carried.

Opened with a prayer by Pastor Amanda.

Secretary report was emailed to board members. MSC

Jason needs to check with Amy on why the checking/savings account from April to May has a discrepancy of -\$10,000.00

Financial report was approved. MSC

Mustard Seed: Mustard Seed Sales for April \$

Salem West Impact Report for April; we had 71 referrals and completed 37 orders. A total of 56 individuals were helped.

There has been \$110,880 in goods delivered to the community year to date. The in kind impact YTD is \$346,929.79.

Lunch Bunch will start on June 7th .

Discussion was made on:

Business name – Combining or creating a single business name for total operation.

Mission Statement- articulate a clear & abbreviated mission statement that can be posted on line and in store.

Jason will send out the 3 Mission statements and the board will try and create one new Mission statement for the Mustard Seed and Salem West.

Garage Sale was held Saturday, May 18th. Made \$2,300 in sales. Next Garage Sale will be held in August.

New shelving was installed at the Mustard Seed on the west wall. This is working out great.

Radio Ads will happen this summer. We will have 10 radio ads that will be broadcasted to boost sales at the Mustard Seed.

New full time cashier hired: Melva, Jake

Next meeting will be June 11th .

Closing Prayer - Adjourn

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

May 23, 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
- SOS Announcement:
- Approval of Agenda: MSC
- Approval of May Minutes:
 - o Motion to approve minutes of April 25, 2024. MSC
- Approve Financials:
 - o Motion to approve May 2024 Treasurer's Report. MSC.
- Pastor's Report:
 - o Currently focusing on Strategic Plan goals 2, and 7-10.
 - o Goal 2: Engage individuals in ministry needs – percentage of active church community engaged in different ministry ventures: 52%
 - o Synod Assembly update: Civic Life and Faith social statement review period; question for 2025, send delegates AND visitors again? Council affirmed this.
 - o Organizing the June 30 outdoor worship at Serpent Lake.
 - o Re-developing home communion visitors, question about parameters for involvement.
- Outreach Report:
 - o Mustard Seed sales continue to shine as it grows in its new space.
 - o Salem West continues to serve the surrounding communities, with the full impact report and OGB meeting minutes posted on the bulletin board in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.
- Old Business
 - ✓ Block Party – Saturday, July 20 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. Discussion held to revisit the goal of the event, The question – Fundraiser or Community outreach? It is both, but ultimately developed to fill the financial void created when Summer Fest was canceled. So far-
 - ✓ We have 2 donations of \$500. \$500 to be given to the winning band of "Battle of the Bands". We have one band and need 2 more. \$500 to help defray expenses.
 - ✓ 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.
 - ✓ Volunteers will blanket the Deerwood community with a door hanger that will advertise the Block Party on one side, and VBS on the other.
 - ✓ A Bags/Cornhole tourney will be held for adults and take place throughout the afternoon. Food and water/sodas will also be available to purchase.
 - o Directory – Finalized and sent for printing. 150 copies available. The books will be placed in the Narthex for distribution. It is free, but members can cover the cost, which is \$4.65/directory. (Original expectation was \$5.62, costs decreased by \$140 due to fewer pages than first quoted.)
- New Business
 - o Review holiday work schedules- July 4th (a national paid day off) is on Thursday this year. Eligible employees can choose to use PTO on Friday, July 5th.
 - o Membership Change – Motion made and seconded to remove Ron Frykholm from Salem Lutheran Church membership, as per his request. MSC.

Continued on the next page.

- o Capital Appeal Campaign – The contract proposal from MDA has been adjusted to \$18,000. A motion was made and seconded to approve Mark Davy & Associates (MDA) to plan and implement a capital campaign strategy for Salem in tandem with the Capitol Campaign committee and Church Council. MSC.
- ✓ Working on exhibit to visually show the congregation how their money, time and talents impact the church and beyond. Other suggestions include having a large cardboard thermometer that tracks capital pledges as they come in; having a congregational party to celebrate advancement of the plan and achievement of goals.
- ✓ An update letter about the new contract and plans will go in the June Connections and monthly newsletter.
- o Schwanke Trust – Originally, money beyond scholarships was to go directly to church funds. The trust has not closed. All the leg work has been done to dissolve the endowment fund, which will now go before a judge to formally dissolve it. The designated \$500 cemetery funds are not to be used for the cemetery itself, but to be used to maintain the family gravestone, which includes flowers. Will check with the Columbarium committee to handle this responsibility.
- Committee Reports:
 - o Capital Appeal – Lynn Hansen. See New Business
 - o Columbarium – Don Hales. The courtyard flower boxes by Mark Boike and gardens planted by the committee are beautiful!
 - o Facilities – Nate VanRisseghem. Parking lot cracks will be filled. Before doing, need to check Bank parking agreement about sharing upkeep costs. The Fellowship Hall lighting issue remains. Nate suggested that Council members look at the two options he has available for input. It was also suggested that the Cuyuna Lions Club be asked what they prefer, since they hold their monthly meetings in the hall.
 - o Faith Formation – Sylvia Hoge. Prayer Buddies have been assigned between adults and children. The kids have been given a summer assignment. VBS is open for registration and volunteers will have training sessions to prepare for the event. This year's 3 graduating seniors were recognized during the May 19th service and cake was served in their honor during coffee hour. A back-to-school event is scheduled for August.
 - o Memorial – Peter MacKay. The committee invites students to apply for scholarships.
 - o Stewardship – Lynn Hansen. In June, the committee will have an interactive display that illustrates to members how much and when they are involved. Results of the activity will be shared at the July 14 Listening Session. The Time and Talent form is being updated/revised.
 - o Technology – Julie Fritz. The committee is getting quotes for monitoring security.
 - o Welcome – Tina Royer. 25 New Members – from the past year – attended a casual dinner gathering to talk about their experiences as new church members, discuss any necessary changes to New Member Orientation, and get to know each other better. It was a great social gathering! The next orientation session will be in late September or early October.
 - o Worship and Music – Julie Fritz. Looking for individuals to provide summer worship music. The VBS choir will perform on July 21st .

Continued on the next page.

- Announcements:

- o Executive Team meeting- June 11th at 3:00 pm. Council meeting- June 27th at 6:30 pm

- o A motion was made to adjourn at 8:10pm. MSC

Closed in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Tina Royer

SALEM'S STAFF

Pastor	Amanda Kempthorne	pastoramanda@salemwd.org
Office Manager	Grace Reininger	office@salemwd.org
Financial Manager	Aimee Watson	finance@salemwd.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@salemwd.org
Cleaning Team	4 & 47 Cleaners, Aitkin	
Director of Outreach	Jason Kempthorne	outreach@salemwd.org
Mustard Seed Manager	Jacob Walker	mustardseed@salemwd.org
Seed and Donation Manager	Holly Willert	west@salemwd.org
Mustard Seed Team Lead	Debbie Olson	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am Worship at Serpent Lake	1	2 9:00am Piecemakers 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	3 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	6
7 9:00am Worship 1:30pm CRMC Care Center Worship	8 1:00pm Bible Study at Heartwood	9 9:00am Piecemakers 5:00pm Worship and Music Meeting 6:00pm Faith Formation 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	10 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	11 10:45am Meals on Wheels Delivery 6:00pm VBS Volunteer Training	12 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	13 9:00am Serpent Lake Association Meeting
14 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Worship	15 9:00am Scuba VBS! 11:00am Catholic Charities Meal Distribution	16 9:00am Scuba VBS! 3:00pm Executive Team Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	17 9:00am Scuba VBS! 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	18 9:00am Scuba VBS! 6:00pm Cuyuna Range Lions Meeting	19 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	20 11:00am Salem Lutheran Block Party!
21 9:00am Worship 10:15am Q2 Listening Session	22	23 9:00am Piecemakers 1:00pm Outreach Governing Board Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	24 3:00pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:30pm Council Meeting	26 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Lunch Bunch	27
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

Special Dates to Note:

- July 4th: Church Office is Closed for the Holiday
- July 15th-18th: Vacation Bible School 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
- July 20th: Salem Lutheran Church Block Party 11:00a.m.-6:00p.m.
 - Battle of the Bands 12:00p.m.-5:00p.m.
- July 21st: Q2 Listening Session after Worship