



Salem Connection

September 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



One of the things that made Jason and I most excited to join your ministries is that Salem Lutheran is made up of people who want to do something with their faith. Our outreach ministries are a huge part of it, but equally inspiring are groups of people who want to study the Bible! There are people who show up for children's ministries like VBS and Sunday school and Kids Club with passion and joy! There are people who count offerings or take inventory of building projects, people who visit one another and feed others! More than 52% of our members volunteer their time in service to others – and that's just at / through Salem! (Most churches have 30% participation.)

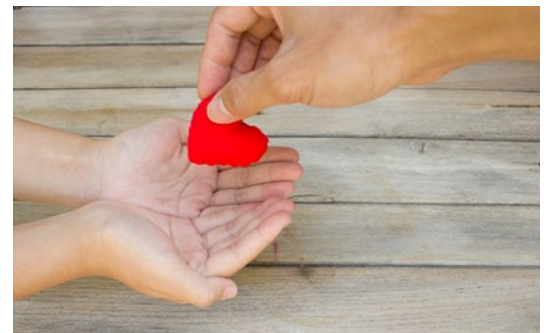
Just like "love", "faith" is a verb – it requires action!

After writing about what God's love looks like, John makes this move for consideration: "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:16-18)

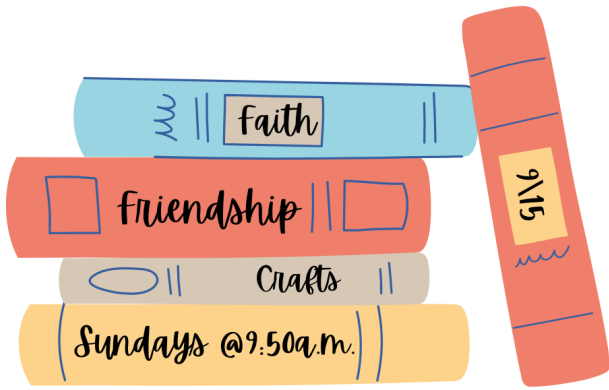
Our love, our action, our faith, comes from the God who loves us first: the holy Parent who claims us as beloved children, God-in-the-flesh Christ who sacrificed his glory and gave of himself, and God's Spirit within us who is beside us in this life.

Through September, you'll hear opportunities to serve through Salem's ministries that will come together on September 29. You will hear opportunities that ask for physical energy, some that take number or planning or tech smarts, some just ask you to be sociable and hospitable, some mean you're up front but most are supportive or one-on-one. We will also bring our giving commitments for 2025 to God's work at Salem and hear and update on our Capital Appeal. If you are not joining your hands in this shared ministry, you're invited to offer yourself in love and faith. If you are part of the 52%, thank you and keep listening to God's call to love "in truth and action."

Blessed to serve alongside you,
~Pastor Amanda



Faith Formation!



Sunday School Schedule

Each Sunday at 9:50a.m.

Starting September 15th

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.

The purpose of Salem's "Kids Club" is to introduce kids to new experiences that grow their imaginations and faith in a supportive and playful way!

The **THIRD** Wednesday of each month, starting September 18th, we invite 3rd-6th graders to join in on a fun afternoon of new experiences and hobbies that those here at Salem are overjoyed to share with the youth in our community!



Scan the QR code or visit www.salemdwd.org to register online!



Men's 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!

Salem Lutheran

KIDS CLUB

3:15-5:00p.m.
3rd Wednesday of the month!
Free After School Program
3rd-6th Graders Welcome

Register Online at salemdwd.org

- September 18: Welcome & Outdoor Games
- October 23: Search & Rescue Dogs
- November 20: Lego Brick Bible Video
- December 18: Make & Take Christmas Craft
Christmas Party: All Ages Welcome!
- January 15: Making Friends, Color with Kindness
- February 19: Quilting, Spreading Warmth & Care
- March 19: Building Friendships & Bird Houses
- April 16: TBD
- May 21: End of Year Party!

Interested in joining a Bible Study?

Worship Notes at Salem

Thank you to those serving in September:

READERS

- 1 Glenn Suess
- 8 Shirley Midthun
- 15 Katie McCormick
- 22 Tina Royer
- 29 Ken Stebbins

USHERS

- 1 Ed & Sherri Godfrey, Curt and Sylvia Hoge
- 8 Randy Holmwig, Herb and Barb Schoon, Mark Boike
- 15 Roger and Marlene Prill, Clark and Joyce Marshall
- 22 Nory and Peggy Hunze, Chuck Lubowitz and Karla Peterson
- 29 John and Raye Cragun, Becki Zender, Rod Ogard

COMMUNION SERVERS

- 1 Glenn Suess, _____
- 8 Katie McCormick, _____
- 15 _____
- 22 Tina Royer, _____
- 29 _____

OFFERING COUNTERS

2 needed—Sept. 3, 9, 16, 23, & 30

September Worship Schedule

- 1 9:00a.m. Worship
- 8 8:00a.m. Praise Team
9:00a.m. Worship
Choir Sings
- 15 8:00a.m. Praise Team
9:00a.m. Worship
Bell Choir Plays
- 22 8:00a.m. Praise Team
9:00a.m. Worship
Choir Sings
- 29 8:00a.m. Praise Team
9:00a.m. Worship
Volunteer Choir Sings

Fall Music Schedule:

Choir sings on the 2nd & 4th Sunday
practice Wednesdays at 6p.m.

Bells play on the 3rd Sunday

practice Wednesdays at 5p.m.

Hymn Sing before worship

2nd and 4th Sundays

Volunteer Choir

1st Sunday of each month

Heartwood Bible Study

The monthly Bible study at Heartwood will take place on
September 9th at 1:00p.m.

These studies include Communion, so invite others along!



Fall Music Schedule

Wednesdays Beginning
September 4th

Bells will practice Wednesdays at 5:00p.m.
Choir will practice Wednesdays at 6:00p.m.



Mark Your Calendars!

- September 4th: Fall Music Begins
- September 7th: Lutheran Lounge Act
- September 8th: Rally Sunday
- September 15th: Sunday School Begins
- September 16th: Senior Meal
Distribution & Senior Fellowship Meals
- September 18th: Kids Club Begins
- September 27th-29th: Women's Retreat

Faith and Fellowship

32nd Annual Women's Retreat

Women of all ages! You are invited to a weekend of rest and reflection, play and prayer! Gather with others to build a practice of prayer centered on listening for God's guidance in your life. This retreat offers reflective Scripture study, guided conversation, gorgeous outdoor setting for activities, and meaningful worship. Join us as God transforms your spiritual journey and strengthens your walk with Christ, offering you clarity and peace as you navigate life's decisions.

We will be at Bay Lake Retreat Center, joined again by several ladies from First Lutheran Church in St. Paul. They will be part of our retreat and we look forward renewing friendships and making new ones! Plan on arriving at the Church Island Landing between 4:30 and 5:30 on Friday, September 27th. We will arrive back at the landing around 11:30am on Sunday, September 29th. Agenda's will be furnished upon arrival. The cost is \$145 for Salem members. (\$175 for non-members.) Do not let the cost keep you from enjoying this time with other ladies and strengthening your walk with Christ!! If you need assistance with the cost, it is available; please call the Church office. All meals and towels are provided, but you will need to bring your own bedding (sleeping bag or sheets/blanket and pillow). If you don't have a sleeping bag and want to borrow one, please let the Church office know! Others have extra!

There are paper sign-up sheets in the narthex, or you can sign up on line (see below link).

More details will be provided as we get closer. Sign-up deadline is September 17th.

If you have ANY questions, please call Jena Reed at (218) 670-0499

[Click Here to Register Online!](#)

Online at www.salemdwd.org

A Message from the Spiritual Gifts Team:

It has been two years since the last Time and Talent Surveys were completed. We will have opportunities during the month of September to hear from teams, committees, and ministry groups about opportunities to serve. On September 29th as a part of the worship service, we will fill out new Time and Talent surveys. This is a chance to continue to participate in activities that you currently do and/or the possibility to try serving God by helping others in a different way in the coming years.

The Council, our financial manager, and staff are working to build our budget for 2025. We will be sending out pledge materials for your prayerful consideration as you plan how to use your time, talents, and treasure (financial support) in the coming year. When thinking about how much we can give of our time, talents and treasure, the word of the hymn: We Give Thee but Thine Own come to mind.

We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord from thee.

In July, we created a visual representation that showed our volunteerism using our time and talents. Now our focus as we plan ministry for the coming year is on our financial commitments that allow us to carry out Salem's 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.

Senior Fellowship Meals

Salem has received a grant to organize a monthly community meal for individuals with similar life experiences to connect and combat post-pandemic loneliness and social isolation. The free meal and gathering space will promote connection and fellowship through interactive card and board game activities.

This open-ended social afternoon fosters fellowship and connectedness without any pressure, program, or agenda, allowing for conversations and coffee to continue as long as attendees are comfortable.

Salem will host this event and will need volunteers to help set up, serve, and clean up these meals.

Signups will be on the Kiosk.



Announcing the 2024-2027 Capital Appeal

Salem Lutheran Church will be embarking on the 2024-2027 Stepping Forward in Faith Capital Appeal for mortgage reduction. There is approximately \$770,000 left on our mortgage from the 2009 building of our current facilities.

The **Stepping Forward in Faith** theme describes our desire as a congregation to continue stepping forward in faith towards the ultimate goal of eliminating this mortgage. By reducing Salem's mortgage, we can eventually redirect our resources towards enhancing ministries, expanding outreach programs, and investing in the future.

Goal

Our goal is to raise a total of \$390,000 in the next three years (\$130,000 per year). This would enable us to make monthly mortgage payments of \$10,833, resulting in a more accelerated completion time and saving thousands in interest. If Salem reaches this goal, we expect to conduct just one more capital appeal after the 2024-2027 effort, to reach our ultimate goal of eliminating the mortgage.

How You Can Help

1. Pray: Pray for the Lord's guidance as we take on this effort.
2. Volunteer: Please prayerfully consider volunteering when asked.
3. Make a Financial Commitment: Consider making a financial commitment over three years when asked in October. This is a above and beyond your gifts to the annual fund.

Timing

The 2021-2024 Capital Appeal is ending in November. Please complete your commitment from the current Appeal as soon as possible. Salem members will be asked in October for a three-year commitment to the 2024-2027 Capital Appeal, which will officially begin in December.

Informational Presentation

On **Sunday, September 29, at Service**, there will be a brief update regarding the mortgage and capital appeal. Please attend Service that Sunday to learn more.

Thank you to all who have given throughout the years through time, treasure and talent! Together, let's embrace this opportunity to continue our mission in Christ!

Special Celebrations in September



1	Xavia DeCent	14	Peggy Blistain		
2	Brandon Anderson		Gary Malek		
4	Cathy Aykens		Lois McBroom		
	Terry Fields	16	Evan Kempthorne		
	Becky Guida		Kade Novak		
	Kristin Peterson	17	Jack Gavin	9	Ed and Sherri Godfrey
5	Brandon Kunz	18	Kael Novak		Rod and Laurie Ogard
6	Brant Lonergan	19	Walker Jones	13	Nate and April Novak
10	Dee Chileen	23	Marilyn Holmvg	14	Gary and Becky Guida
11	Devan Bartels		Myrna Nelson	15	Louie and Maridee Smilich
	Deanna Olson	24	Madilyn Bodle	19	Doug and Gay Calkins
12	Nate Kewatt	26	James Call	23	Rick and Brenda Stirewalt
13	Susan Erickson			29	Randy and Lori Holmvg

Financial Updates

Benevolences for July

\$1,267.68 Synod ELCA
 \$241.32 Missionary Support
 \$241.32 Voyagers Lutheran Ministry
 \$2,189.22 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 July 2024

	100 Church	150 Building	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Offerings	23,757.24	0.00	23,757.24
4100 · Building Fund	0.00	6,000.20	6,000.20
4900 · Other Income	3,776.12	151.68	3,927.80
Total Income	27,533.36	6,151.88	33,685.24
Gross Profit	27,533.36	6,151.88	33,685.24
Expense	32,604.37	13,000.00	45,604.37
Net Ordinary Income	(5,071.01)	(6,848.12)	(11,919.13)
Net Income	(5,071.01)	(6,848.12)	(11,919.13)

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 – July 23rd, 2024

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

Financial report was approved. MSC

Mustard Seed: Mustard Seed Sales for June \$45,091

Salem West Impact Report for June, we had 72 referrals and completed 45 orders. A total of 92 individuals were helped.

There has been \$187,800 in goods delivered to the community year to date. The in kind impact YTD is \$529,172.

External Communication: Placed adds on 3 radio stations for the Mustard Seed starting July 1,2024.

These will run for 3 months.

Facebook audience 3,227. Instagram followers 521.

Facebook audience as of Jan1, 2022- 1,535. Instagram followers 318

Potential audience 13,500. Facebook local users.

The new software system is working great for the Outreach/Client service. It is helping keep the client service calls and deliveries up to date.

United Way Grant was denied for 7/24-6/25

A Workmen's Comp was filed and put in place for Terence.

Kerry is no longer working at the Mustard Seed.

A used Chevrolet Box Truck was purchased July 2024 for \$61,995. This will be used for client services.

Lunch bunch is going well. We served up to 500 meals. Could use help in donations on some prepackaged foods like: Rice Krispy bars, granola bars, chips, juice boxes and gold fish.

Goal setting/Objectives for 2025:

- *Boosting Volunteers engagement
- *Recruiting New Volunteers
- *New shelving in the warehouse on the west wall

Identity Discussion – Possible Mission Statement:

Serving needs of the community by partnering with individual and local agencies to collect and deliver essential goods to neighbors in need.

Possible Slogan: Give, Receive and Give Again

Next Meeting Is August 20th

Closing Prayer - Adjourn

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

July 25, 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, Sylvia Hoge, Tina Royer, Peter MacKay. Absent: Sherri Godfrey, Julie Fritz, Don Hales. •

- Opening Prayer by Pastor Amanda
- SOS Announcement: None
- Approval of Agenda: MSC
- Approval of June Minutes:
- Motion to approve minutes of June 27, 2024. MSC as amended.
- Approval of June Financials:
 - Motion to approve June 27, 2024, Treasurer's Report. MSC.
- Pastor's Report:
 - Currently focusing on:
 - 1). VBS review and evaluation. 70 children participated!;
 - 2). Worship in the community, @ Bay Lake Island, August 25;
 - 3). Confirmation classes – schedule, letter to families and dates, and kick-off event. Potentially 7 students;
 - 4). Meet with nominating team in August; and
 - 5). Planning Rally Sunday and Fall ministries.
- Outreach Report:
 - Mustard Seed continues to do well financially.
 - Lunch Bunch has served over 500 meals so far this summer.
 - Will work with new grant program this fall addressing social isolation in the community.
 - The 1 year move update shows that the primary issue remains shared housing of 3 ministries, and the confusion it has created in understanding what's what? The OGB is working on how to move forward while honoring history of each ministry.
- Old Business
 - Block Party Results of July 20 – Jason
 - We had approximately 300 attendees
 - Roth RV donated \$500 for the winner of Battle of the Bands, and the Deerwood Civic & Commerce donated \$500 towards expenses. 2
 - Motion made and seconded to use funds in Dedicated Account 2370 to cover expenses, and use budgeted money from Summer Fest account. MSC.
 - Cantata discussion with churches in area – Amanda
 - Heard form Cascade-yes in all areas of production and performance!
 - Will continue to seek other church involvement.
- New Business:
 - Pastor Amanda's 15th Anniversary – We will celebrate this milestone on the anniversary of her coming to Salem.
 - Fall Budgeting Schedule Review – An August email will be sent to all committees requesting their 2025 Budget requests by August 27th . The council will work on the budget at their August meeting using last year's information to guide 2025 decision making.

Continued on the next page.

- Time and Talent 2024 brainstorm – It has been 2 years since we surveyed the congregation about Time and Talents, so it is time to ask again.
 - The form needs updating to address current needs.
 - How do we address this to the congregation to get buy-in and a strong response rate?
- Committee Reports:
 - Capital Appeal – Lynn Hansen. Next meeting is August 6th . Everything is in place to set the wheels in motion of the campaign.
 - Columbarium – Don Hales. NR
 - Facilities – Nate VanRisseghem. The new lights are in the Fellowship Hall and working well.
 - Faith Formation – Sylvia Hoge. Next meeting is August 6th .
 - Memorial – Peter MacKay. Gave money to 6 kids for church camp.
 - Stewardship – Lynn Hansen. Penny jars are in place for people to indicate how many hours in the week were spent on various stewardship activities.
 - Technology – Julie Fritz. NR
 - Welcome – Tina Royer. NR
 - Worship and Music – Julie Fritz. Starting in September the choir will practice on Wednesday evenings.
- SOS Submission – No submission.
- Announcements:
 - Executive Team meeting- August 13 at 3:00 pm. Council meeting- August 22n at 6:30 pm
 - A motion was made to adjourn at 8:10pm. MSC
 - Closed in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Royer



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship	2 Labor Day	3 9:00am Piecemakers 11:00am Funeral for Josephine Blanich 5:00pm Worship and Music Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	4 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 5:00pm Bell Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice	5	6 8:00am Men's Bible Study	7 1:00pm Lutheran Lounge Act Sound Check 7:00pm Lutheran Lounge Act
8 Rally Sunday 8:00am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship 10:15am Facilities Meeting	9 1:00pm Bible Study at Heartwood 5:45pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	10 9:00am Piecemakers 6:00pm Faith Formation 6:00pm Nomination Team 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	11 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 5:00pm Bell Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice	12	13 8:00am Men's Bible Study	14 9:00am Serpent Lake Association Meeting
15 8:00am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship 9:50am Sunday School	16 11:00am Catholic Charities Meal Distribution	17 9:00am Piecemakers 1:00pm Outreach Governing Board Meeting 3:00pm Executive Team Meeting 5:45pm Capital Appeal Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	18 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 3:15pm Kids Club 5:00pm Bell Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice	19 6:00pm Cuyuna Range Lions Meeting	20 8:00am Men's Bible Study	21
22 8:00am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship 9:50am Sunday School	23	24 9:00am Piecemakers 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	25 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 5:00pm Bell Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice	26 6:30pm Council Meeting	27 8:00am Men's Bible Study 4:30pm Women's Retreat	28 Women's Retreat
29 Consecration Sunday 7:00am Women's Retreat 8:00am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship 9:50am Sunday School 2:00pm Heartwood Worship	30	1 9:00am Piecemakers 5:00pm Worship and Music Meeting 6:30pm New Adult Bible Study	2 3:00pm Women's Bible Study 5:00pm Bell Practice 6:00pm Choir Practice	3	4 8:00am Men's Bible Study	5 Brandon Anderson & Ahreanna Chandler Wedding

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	