

SALEM CONNECTION

January 2017



Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444
Phone: 218-534-3309 Email: office@salemdwd.org Website: www.salemdwd.org

From Pastor Mike

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;..." - II Corinthians 5:17-18

*"What benefits does God give in baptism?
In baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what God has promised."
- Luther's Small Catechism, Part 4: the Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

It is the new year, and the calendar has turned. It feels like we are starting over, and that's not a bad way to look at it. In fact, it is almost Biblical. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning..." Can you hear it? The grace of God is new every morning, and that means you and I are made new every morning too!

In one of my favorite scenes from the movie "O Brother Where Art Thou?" Two heroes of the story, both escaped convicts, jump into a line of believers and get baptized. As one of the men comes up out of the water he is overjoyed that his criminal past has been washed away in the baptismal waters. Dripping wet, conscience clear, he exclaims, "Come on in, boys. The water's fine!"

At your baptism our Lord made you God's own child, delivered you from death and every enemy, and gave you everlasting salvation. Every week at the Communion table our Lord renews that promise with sweet forgiveness, reminding you that "This is my body given FOR YOU, this is my blood shed FOR YOU." Our Lord has already done it all FOR YOU! Then he sends you out to be his hands and feet and voice in the world.

That means the things of yesterday (or of last year) do not define you and me. Decisions good and bad, choices foolish and wise, victories and disappointments, financial successes and failures, sickness and health, relationships of any kind do not define you. You, child of God, are "new every morning." That's a promise from the One who made you.

So when you get up tomorrow, give yourself a break. Look in the mirror and remind yourself that the day is new, and so are you. In the grace of Jesus Christ, each day, each week, each year, is ripe with new possibilities and new opportunities for you.

We all start the year with 525,600 minutes - as the song goes, every one of them fresh and new, gifts from God. Live them all dripping wet with the sweet promises of your baptism." Come on in! The water's fine!"

Happy New Year! Happy New You!

- Pastor Mike



JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Steve & Joan Haglund (1983)
- 2 Donovan & Darlene Olson (1965)
- 7 Greg & Diane Meyer (1984)
- 10 Tim & Cindy Foote (1976)
- 14 Jim & Kay Bendorf (1989)

Sunday Worship Attendance

November 27	209
December 4	298
December 11	232
December 18	204

THANK YOU

Many, many thanks to all of the people who contributed to Salem Outreach ministries this year and who made the recent events of the Crow Wing County Jail Christmas celebration, MN adult and teen Challenge Christmas party and pancake breakfast, the angel tree program and ringing bells for the Salvation Army a huge success. You all are God's hands at work in our community and there is a large ripple effect from your work.

Debbie MacKay

The staff and residents from CRMC would like to thank everyone from Salem Lutheran Church who helped cook for, transport and serve our residents at the Thanksgiving Potluck. You all truly helped to make it a fabulous and flawless outing for our group. Thank you so much!

*Dear Salem Friends,
Many thanks for the beautiful poinsettia and the Christmas tree ornament from Salem's kids. What a nice thing to do. It made my Holiday!*

Love & prayers, Virginia Platisha

Thanks for the beautiful plant to remind me of the wonderful people at Salem and to remind me every day why we celebrate the coming of our Savior. Thanks also for the pretty hanger to put on the tree that the Sunday School children made. Thanks to all.

Sincerely, Lenore McBroom

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia and the ornament that the Sunday School children sent. It was so sparkly!

Love, Jerry & Donna Sanderson

USHERS

- 1/8 8:15 Randy Holmvgig, Helen Ryan, Rich & Lynn Leino
- 10:00 Ernie & Mary Erickson, Dean & Pat Sylvester
- 1/15 8:15 Ralph Carlson, Herb & Barb Schoon, Chuck Lubowitz, Karla Peterson
- 10:00 David Anderson, Lisa Slepica, Jay & Sue Stromberg
- 1/22 8:15 Ron & Sandy Kretlow, Clark & Joyce Marshall
- 10:00 Pat & Laura Guimont, Roger & Marlene Prill
- 1/29 8:15 Joel Huntley, Rad & Tina Royer, Louie & Maridee Smilich

The January list of Readers and Communion Servers is printed on page 8 of this newsletter

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mason Meyer, George Pettersen
- 2 Keith Cole
- 3 Carla Barker, Noah Coughlin, Shelby Olson
- 4 Mary Jane Olson
- 5 Jo Blanich
- 8 Kristin Ficklin
- 9 Tom Reek
- 10 Mariah Bodle
- 11 Peggy Hunze
- 12 Gene Abelson
- 13 Donovan Olson
- 14 Greg Reed
- 15 Marlene Raadt, John Zender
- 16 Kay Cooper
- 17 Mark Carlson, Elle Chileen, Tom Lunacek
- 18 Jim Harker
- 19 Matthew Stangel
- 23 Chuck Lubowitz
- 24 Ed Godfrey, Marquise Knutson
- 25 Ron Meyer
- 29 Lenore McBroom
- 30 Mark Kewatt
- 31 Jake Frahm, Katie McGuire, Donna Turnquist

A Word from Salem's Council President

Happy New Year to you! It is my privilege to serve as your Salem Church Council President again. It is going to be an exciting year!

Epiphany - a church festival on January 6 to commemorate the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem, and the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. (Webster's New Standard Dictionary) Read Mathew 2:1-12. This is also known as the twelfth day of Christmas or Three Kings Day. I like that in many parts of the world this is when gifts are given. It keeps the focus on Christmas on the birth of Jesus. I love waiting for Epiphany to put away Christmas decorations because it extends the special season. I hope that you and your loved ones did experience the Christ of Christmas this year. We also celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River on Epiphany.

Many Protestants mark Epiphany by taking down the Christmas trees and burning them in bonfires. In Europe, children raid the trees of candy canes and sweets before the tree leaves the house. Children dress as the Three Kings and go caroling.

The Faith Formation Team has an intergenerational event planned to celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 8. Read more about it in Connie Lou's article. It will be an opportunity to focus on the Gift that God gave to us and the gifts that we can give to others. There will also be the opportunity to dress as a king.

As we focus on gifts, I want to thank all of you who generously support Salem throughout the year with your pledges and donations of time, talent, and money. We are able to offer the worship experiences, programming, outreach, mission support, and care for our members and the community because of your gifts to Salem. God, our Creator, has gifted each of us in different ways and He can use each of our gifts in His plan for our church. THANK YOU! As our banner says, we are "Blessed to be a blessing".

Have a happy, healthy and blessed 2017.
Lynn Hansen

Everybody Matters - Worship

Why should we go to church on Sunday?

There is the analogy from the hymn, *Fill My Cup, Lord* that our souls are a cup that needs to be filled. Worship and the Word are what is needed to fill our empty cups so that we may pour out blessings, wisdom, patience, understanding, compassion, and service, throughout the week. We are Jesus' hands and feet in our homes and community.

EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have questions about **any** of the following, please feel free to call the Salem office. We will do our best to answer your questions or find someone who can. Please refer to the January Calendar printed in this issue for a complete schedule of events.*

NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP will be at 9:00 a.m. We will return to our regular Sunday morning schedule on Sunday, January 8, 2017. 8:15 & 10:00 a.m. Worship, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School

EPIPHANY PARTY for ALL ages will be held on Sunday, January 8th at 11:00 a.m. Lunch and a variety of activities are planned. This event will be hosted by The Faith Formation Team.

WORSHIP AT THE CRMC Care Center – Salem is on a rotation with area churches to host worship at the Care Center in Crosby. It is OUR TURN on Sunday, January 8th, 1:30 p.m. If you will help out, please come to the Care Center that day around 1:15 p.m.

LEGO CLUB – this activity group for children in grades K-6 will be held EVERY Wednesday in January, 3:30-4:45 p.m.

PIECEMAKERS quilt group meets in the fellowship hall on Tuesdays at 9:00 am to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief, missions, baptisms and miscellaneous gifts.

IN STITCHES knitting/crocheting group meets in the Library on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

DIAPERS – You are welcome to come and help cut t-shirts for use in Salem's Diaper Ministry on Wednesday, Jan 11, 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

FINK NITES: January 4 & 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for students in grades 7, 8, & 9.

GIRLS NIGHT OUT – all women are welcome to come and enjoy dinner and fellowship at Coach’s Corner on Tuesday, January 10th, 5:30 p.m.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDIES

- † Wednesdays, 6:30 a.m. in the library
- † Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. in the conference room

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY – All men are welcome Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room.

LESSONS FOR LIFE BIBLE STUDY (*a name was chosen by the group on Dec 20*) will meet in the Education Unit on the following Tuesday evenings in January at 6:30 p.m.: **January 3, 10, 24, 31.** ALL ADULTS are welcome!

The CHURCH COUNCIL will have their Annual Retreat on Saturday, January 21, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The January Council Meeting will be part of the day’s activities at 1:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

- **Worship & Music Team** – Tuesday, January 3, 5:30 p.m.
- **Salem WEST Committee** – Meeting date and time to be announced
- **Sarah Circle** – Thursday, January 12, 9:30 a.m.
- **Naomi Circle** – NO JANUARY MEETING
- **Salem Outreach Committee** – Thursday, January 12, 5:30 p.m.
- **Library Team** – Tuesday, January 17, 3:00 p.m.
- **Faith Formation Team** – Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m.

The Mustard Seed
Deb Selk, Manager
msmanger@salemwd.org

It’s been a great year here at the Mustard Seed. We have been so blessed with all the wonderful donations, the acquiring of the parking lot next to us and to all the wonderful volunteers. If it wasn’t for all the effort and team work we wouldn’t be what we are. A huge Thank You to all. Merry Christmas to all.

Blessings, Deb

Greg Meyer, Deacon
greg@salemwd.org

As we come to the end of another year, I do so with a heart full of gratitude for the wonderful ministries of Salem, and for the incredible people who serve God by serving others. Every year I am in awe of the amount of ministry that happens at Salem. The number of people who have needs met through the love and compassion of others. The number of people who serve and the hours that are joyfully given to make other people’s lives a bit brighter. The amount of hope that is shared through the love of Christ.

This past week alone, 147 inmates at the Crow Wing County Jail heard the “real” Christmas story through Christian volunteers, missionaries, which were also able to share that there is a community of believers that support them and know that through a relationship with Jesus, they can have a new beginning. The same was done with 110 students at MN Adult and Teen Challenge. This was done by hosting parties with pizza, sweets and presents for their children. A team from Salem also rang bells for the Salvation Army at the Westgate Mall, 4 shifts at two locations. 30 people who have difficulty getting out and about were visited and given a beautiful Poinsettia and gift from the Sunday School students. Angel Tree gifts were delivered to children who have a parent in prison. Salem also hosted the MN Adult and Teen Challenge Choir with a fundraiser pancake breakfast, but the true gift was from them as they led worship and shared music and testimonies of what God has done in their lives.

The ongoing ministry through Salem WEST and The Mustard Seed has touched literally 1,000’s of people in the past year. Slumberland partnered with Salem WEST in December to deliver new beds to children and adults, they even delivered them for us! Numerous foundations offered financial and technical support. There were many individual gifts and memorials given to Salem Outreach, so more lives could be touched.

The jail ministry distributed many new study Bibles to eager learners and seekers. Beautiful prayer shawls were given to those who were in a time of struggle, so they could feel the love of Christ through the hands of others. Many beds delivered

from Salem WEST had Salem quilts to keep them warm on a chilly night. Hundreds of Honduran children heard the about Jesus and then felt His love as they were fed, clothed and loved by our mission teams. Again, all I can say is Salem is AMAZING!

As we look forward to 2017, we do so with the anticipation that God has big plans for us in the New Year. Thank you for love of Christ that you so freely share. God's peace and blessings for a fantastic 2017.

LIBRARY NEWS

If you have trouble finding time to sit down and read, you may want check out audio books to listen to in the car or while exercising. (Especially if exercise is a New Year's Resolution) We received the audiobook: **Learning From The Giants** by John C. Maxwell. He conveys life and leadership lessons from the Bible using Elijah, Elisha, Job, Jacob, Deborah, Isaiah, Jonah, Joshua, and Daniel. There are discussion questions if you would like to use it as a Bible Study.

We have many new children's books from the Book Fair. When the January weather is too cold for outdoor activity, reading new books is fun.

Now, maybe is the time to get started reading all those books you have on your list! Please make a New Year's Resolution to check out a book or two from the Salem Library. We were able to get a large number of Children's books from a sale. Happy Holidays to all and a Great New Year to You!

Next meeting January 17th 3:00 PM

COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Connie Lou Swanson
connielou@salemtdwd.org

THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all who helped to make the Intergenerational Christmas Program a success! Thanks be to God for the opportunity to tell the story, having a story to tell and to all the participants: the adults who served as narrator, scripture and poetry readers; all the

children who portrayed the characters and animals, those who helped iron costumes, those who put the set together, moved altar furniture to and fro, those who did the program and power point, the musicians, control booth volunteers, ushers, those who volunteered to be travelers, additional shepherds, angels and kings, those who helped with candy cane staffs, and those who helped set up for the birthday party for Jesus! I cannot find enough words to express my deep gratitude to Marlene Prill for her excellent help in co-directing the program, again! **Please take time to thank her on our behalf.** She is a stickler for details and a costume diva, working tirelessly day after day and always with a joyful spirit.

SO there were a total of 45 people involved in the program itself and an additional 17 people in a supportive role. **That is 62 people of all ages and all generations involved in the telling of the greatest story on earth. I did not take the time to check the records on each one's age, but I am guessing there were 7-8 different generations telling the good news of Jesus' birth.**

We are looking forward to many more Intergenerational opportunities you are invited to participate as often as you can. We all need to continue to grow in our faith and understanding of God's word and his love. What better way to do that than with all ages represented, learning from one another, getting to know each other and being a blessing to one another!

EPIPHANY PARTY Epiphany Sunday is January 8th! **Everyone is invited to celebrate Epiphany at 11am.** Salem's Faith Formation Team has been planning this for several months! (Thank you FFT!) This is another opportunity for people of all ages to gather together and grow in faith and fellowship as we focus on the magi who brought gifts to the Christ child. We will start with a walking taco lunch complete with a king's cake, followed by a devotion on the gifts of the magi, there will be a We Three Kings photo booth, and star related crafts! We invite everyone to bring your ELCA World Hunger Piggy Banks to worship that day! All donations will be welcome.

WHIRL SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday School resumes on Jan 8th, 9:15 am. In January we will learn about: The Baptism of the Lord: A Light to

the Nations, The Lamb of God, United in Christ, and The Beatitudes. On Jan 22 the children will be sharing breakfast and some activities with their Prayer Buddies in the fellowship hall at 9:15 am.

LEGO CLUB Did you get a chance to check out any of the Lego creations on the Children's Ministry table these past weeks? From mazes, to my favorite things, to tree ornaments to the Nativity Set? The kids have really been enjoying Lego time (and I must add so have the volunteers!!!) ☺ Lego Club will resume on January 4th. **Lego Club will meet every Wednesday in January, 3:30-4:45 p.m. PLEASE note schedule and time changes!!** Volunteers – please sign up on the Lego Club Schedule so we can plan for Legos every week! Thank you very much!

FAITH FORMATION TEAM Thank you for assembling the 12 Days of Christmas Kits for families and for your work in planning the Epiphany Party on January 8th! Next meeting: January 17, 6:30 p.m.

POINSETTIA PROJECT

The following people donated poinsettias for Advent & Christmas used in decorating the sanctuary:

- * *Peggy Blistain in memory of George & Joan Blistain, Louis & Dorcas Wolf, George & Eleanor Blistain*
- * *Pastor Mike & Randy Brigs in honor of Matthew, Holly & Luke Briggs and Jason Briggs*
- * *Mark & Debbi Carlson in memory of their parents: Paul Carlson, Oscar & Gladys Theien*
- * *Robert & Kay Cooper in memory of their mothers: Georgia Austin, Ida Funk*
- * *John & Kris Davis in memory of Harlan Hilk, Jack & Joanne Davis, Brenda Leino, and their grandparents*
- * *Terry & Judy Fields in memory of their parents*
- * *Steve & Joan Haglund in memory of Arnie & Dorothy Haglund, Durand & Charlotte Rotzel*
- * *Lynn and Ruth Hansen in memory of Curt Hansen and grandparents*
- * *Lori Holmvg in memory of David & Audrey Hall*
- * *Steve & Marilyn Holmvg in memory of Stan & LaVerne Holmvg, Robert Widme, Kristi Alstrup, and in honor of Lorraine Widme*
- * *Jason & Jessica Jones in honor of their parents and grandparents, and in memory of Noel "Buzz" Jones and Brenda Leino*
- * *Dale & Vi Klungness in memory of their parents and all other family*
- * *Wayne & Joyce Kohnen in memory of their parents*
- * *Ron & Sandy Kretlow in memory of their parents: Edner & Stella Borreson and Elvin & Rosella Kretlow*
- * *Rich & Lynn Leino in memory of their parents: Frances Leino, Carl Leino, Betty Leino, and Bill & Evelyn Priebe*
- * *Gary & Carol Malek in memory of their children, Shelly and Jesse (forever in their hearts)*
- * *Clark & Joyce Marshall in memory of their parents and Joyce's brothers Gerald and Robert*

- * *Myrna Nelson & family in memory of Jim Nelson*
- * *Ken & Carole Nystrom in memory of their son, Scott Nystrom, and their parents: Don & Dora Newstrom and Royal & Olive Nystrom*
- * *Rod & Laurie Ogard in memory of their son, David, and their nephew Brian Turck*
- * *Archie & Deanna Olson in memory of their parents*
- * *Elsa Ray, Carol Gerber and families in memory of Martin & LaFern Linberg*
- * *Elsa Ray, Lance Ray and Shelly Brown in memory of Doug Ray*
- * *Rad & Tina Royer in honor of their children and grandchildren*
- * *Al & Barb Schiffler in memory of Renee & John Siliznoff and Martha & Al Schiffler*
- * *Maurice & Lisa Slepica in memory of Ambros Johnson, Mary Leyk, Bud & Louise Slepica, and in honor of TSgt Merrill "Ace" Slepica*
- * *Les & Shirley Taylor in memory of their parents*



Keep Up With Regular Offerings By Giving Electronically

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Salem Lutheran Church relies on your regular contributions. Salem appreciates the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year – especially during popular winter and summer travel periods. To assist you, the church provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available in the kiosk or contact Sandy, Financial Manager, in the church office.

Are you already on Simply Giving?

If you are signed up for simply giving and you have pledged a new amount for 2017. You need to fill out a new Simply Giving form (if you haven't already done so) with the new amounts you want withdrawn from your account. You can find these forms in the kiosk in the narthex (lobby) or stop by the Financial Manager office and fill out a form (note your pledge card does not replace the form).

Bu\$iness

Salem Lutheran Church Operating Fund

Financial Results for November

	Adopted Annual Budget	Nov Actual 2016	Nov Prior Year 2015
Income	\$405,310	\$ 37,720	\$ 36,793
Expense	\$424,937	\$ 39,102	\$ 36,022
Net	(\$19,627)	(\$ 1,382)	\$ 771

Financial Results Jan – Nov (YTD)

	Adopted Annual Budget	YTD Actual 2016	YTD Prior Year 2015
Income	\$405,310	\$ 358,752	\$ 362,949
Expense	\$424,937	\$ 369,396	\$ 364,334
Net	(\$ 19,627)	(\$ 10,644)	(\$ 1,385)

Overview of Mortgage & Building Fund Salem Lutheran Church November 2016

Mortgage

Original Mortgage Amount	\$2,379,965.00
Principal Balance	\$1,742,492.46
Monthly Mortgage Payment (Principal & Interest)	\$ 12,133.54
Additional Principal Payment	\$ 3,274.46

Building Fund

Beginning Balance 11/01/16	\$194,403.72
Income Nov 2016	
Gifts	\$111,121.00
Interest	\$65.67
Memorials	\$25.00
Expense Nov 2016	
Mortgage Payment	(\$12,133.54)
Additional Principal	(\$ 3,274.46)
Ending Balance 11/30/16	\$290,207.39

(The ending building balance is what we have in savings accounts dedicated to the building fund. \$79,500 of this is in a special account which is set aside for any unexpected large building expense or need) Note that complete financials are available by contacting Sandy Beyer at the church office. Any questions can be directed to either Council Treasurer Paul Tesdahl or Financial Manager Sandy Beyer.

REFORMATION 500 KICKOFF

This event is sponsored by the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

www.NEMNSynod.org

Register at <https://2017nemnconvo.eventbrite.com>

Sunday, January 22, 2017

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church

107 2nd Street SE

Aitkin MN 56431

Keynote Speaker: Bishop David Zellmer, SD Synod

“How the heck did we get to the Reformation?”

Choose from 2 Workshop Sessions:

Lutherans and Creation Care

Lutherans and Immigration

Lutheran Teaching at School of Lay Ministry

Lutheran Theology: God at work in the World

ELCA Today: Grounded and Changing

The Global Lutheran

Picture the Reformation: Luther, Cranach and the Power of the Visual

Faith Outside: Engaging the future of the church

ANYONE can attend! Come as a group or individually. High School youth are especially invited. This is a FREE event to allow us to gather as the synod apart from the Synod Assembly.

Please register so that plans can be made for refreshments.



The Northeastern MN Synod is seeking Nominees for leadership positions. Please consider nominating skilled and gifted people with a strong commitment to the church (you may nominate yourself). Nomination forms are available in the Salem Church Office and must be submitted to the Synod Office by February 15, 2017.

JANUARY READERS

January 1	9:00	Glenn Suess
January 8	8:15	Diane Meyer
	10:00	Meg McGuire
January 15	8:15	Glenn Suess
	10:00	TBA
January 22	8:15	Vi Klungness
	10:00	Nancy Meyer
January 29	8:15	Tina Royer
	10:00	Laura Guimont



The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge

life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

—C. Neil Strait

COMMUNION

1/1	9:00	Tom & Margaret Lunacek, Glenn Suess
1/8	8:15	Greg & Diane Meyer, Jerry Pflespen
	10:00	Meg McGuire, Ron & Nancy Meyer
1/15	8:15	Tom & Margaret Lunacek, Glenn Suess
	10:00	TBA
1/22	8:15	Dale & Vi Klungness, Shirley Taylor
	10:00	Ron & Nancy Meyer, Roger Prill
1/29	8:15	Peggy Blistain, Rad & Tina Royer
	10:00	Laura Guimont, Roger & Marlene Prill

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!



John & Nancy Pelant; Nathan and Claire (Associate Members)



Nory & Peggy Hunze



Carol "Cookie" Bobich



Nathan & Christine Myers
Eian, Egen, Estyn, Edyn



Mike & LuAnn Larson



Pastor Mike & Randy Briggs

Not pictured: Lyle & Mary Lobitz



How do I know if worship is cancelled due to the weather? Good question!

Suggestions:

1. Check Salem's website: www.salemdwd.org If Sunday morning worship is canceled, it will be posted on the website. **Look there first.**
2. Listen to the radio. KKin in Aitkin (94.3) and WJY in Brainerd (106.7) will report cancellations.
3. Call the church and select "Worship Times." Worship cancellations will be recorded there.

The Pastor and Church Council President will make decisions regarding worship cancellations.

For other Salem Lutheran Church calendar events: Follow this guideline: *If Crosby-Ironton Schools close or their events are canceled due to the weather, then Salem is also closed and canceling events. For example, if school has an early dismissal or is canceled on the same day that FINK is scheduled, then FINK is canceled, as well as any other Salem activities scheduled.*

Salem Outreach Committee Meeting Dec. 7, 2016

Present were Greg Meyer, Cecil Schmidt, Sandy K., Debbie MacKay, Noreen Steinbrecher, Absent were Steve Haglund and Dee Dee Frahm.

MSC- Motion, Seconded, Carried

Debbie opened with devotions.

Minutes for November were sent out to members. MSC

Mustard Seed:

Taste of Christmas was 18 and 19 if November. We closed early on Friday due to weather. Profits were down due to weather.

Cause of the month for December is Jail Ministry.

Mustard Seed will be closed Dec 23 & 24.

Salem West:

November was very busy. We had 55 referrals that month. We are on track for the same amount in December. We have been working on the Jail Ministry and Teen Challenge Christmas parties. We are in need of cribs and Toddler Beds, they have been ordered.

Finance:

We need to move any excess monies to designated accounts.

\$35,000. To #2839 Building Fund

\$ 5,000. To #2840 Vehicle Maintenance Fund

\$35,000. To #2545 Vehicle Purchase Fund

Remaining net income not to exceed \$5,000 to Honduras Missions and balance to labor reserves #2700. MSC

Recommendations for Job descriptions for SW has been sent to the council for approval.

Scrip orders are doing great this month.

Jail Ministry Christmas Party is the 14 of December. There are 200 people there, which means around 400 children are in need of toys. There has been a great response to the toy gathering. Teen Challenge Christmas Party is the 16 of December. There are 110 members there currently. The toys are being sorted for this party.

Ended meeting with a Bible Verse.

Next meeting is Jan 12, 2017

Submitted by Sandy Kretlow

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting

November 17, 2016

Council Mission Statement: “We exist, with God’s help, to provide leadership for the Salem Lutheran church congregation.”

MSC = The motion was seconded and carried

Present: Pastor Mike Briggs, Lynn Hansen, Randy Holmvig, Sherri Godfrey, Kris Schmidt, Paul Tesdahl, Diane Hein

Also present: Sandy Beyer

Absent: Rick Shafer

The meeting was called to order, by president Diane Hein.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

- **MOTION:** to approve the minutes from Council meeting , October 20, 2016. MSC

TREASURER’S REPORT

- Giving was up this month compared to last month, exceeding operating expenses for the month of October.
- Operating deficit for the year is reduced to \$9,261.43
- **MOTION:** to approve the Treasurer’s report. MSC.

PASTOR’S REPORT

- 15 new members will be joining Salem on Nov 27.
- Cuyuna Range Ministerial Association is requesting that area churches help deliver meals for the Meals on Wheels program, the Thursday after they lead worship at the Care Center.
- Working with Visitation Team.
- Plans to put together a small group for development of stewardship ministry.

STAFF REPORTS

- Accepted from Greg Meyer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Accepted from Worship and Music, Faith Formation, and Salem West committees.
- Technology Team: a phone system connection has been set up for conference calls in the conference room.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2017 Budget- **Motion:** to accept 2017 budget after minor editing as discussed. MSC

- Position changes at Salem West/Mustard Seed- **Motion:** to approve Salem Outreach Committee request of a position change for Dennis Peterson to Salem West Manager, full time, retroactively to November 1; hire Dee Dee Frahm as Outreach Assistant, 32 hours per week, retroactively to November 1st. MSC.
- Due to Dee Dee Frahm’s acceptance of the position of Outreach Assistant, there is an additional open position for the Salem Outreach Committee. This will be a 2 year term to complete the vacated committee term. Nominating Committee will be asked to recruit additional candidates for the 2 year term.
- Pancake breakfast- **Motion:** to designate proceeds from the pancake breakfast to the Operating Budget Deficit. MSC.

DISCUSSION:

- Annual meeting date-**Motion:** to split the annual meeting into two sessions, voting for elected positions in October and discussion/approval of the budget in December. Motion seconded. It is not practical to complete budget prior to December due to the need for end of year financial information. After careful discussion of pros and cons motion did not carry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Arranging vote counters for Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Schmidt

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	3 9:00 AM Piecemakers 1:00 PM In Stitches 5:30 PM Worship & Music Committee Mtg 6:30 PM Lessons for Life Bible Study	4 6:30 AM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-4:45 PM Lego Club 5:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM FINK NITE 7:00 PM Salem Ringers Rehearsal	5 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Quilting at Heartwood	6 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study	
8 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Contemporary Worship 11:00 AM Epiphany Party 1:30 PM Salem Hosts Care Center Worship	9 9:00 AM Unlimited Learning	10 9:00 AM Piecemakers 1:00 PM In Stitches 5:30 PM Girls Night Out 6:30 PM Lessons for Life Bible Study	11 6:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM Diaper Project 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-4:45 PM Lego Club 5:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Salem Ringers Rehearsal	12 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Sarah Circle 5:30 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	13 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study	14
15 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Salem WEST Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Contemporary Worship	16	17 9:00 AM Piecemakers 1:00 PM In Stitches 3:00 PM Library Team Meeting 6:30 PM Faith Formation Team Mtg <i>No evening Bible Study</i>	18 6:30 AM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-4:45 PM Lego Club 5:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM FINK NITE 7:00 PM Salem Ringers Rehearsal	19 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study	20 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	21 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Council Retreat
22 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School & Prayer Buddies Breakfast 10:00 AM Contemporary Worship	23	24 9:00 AM Piecemakers 1:00 PM In Stitches 6:30 PM Lessons for Life Bible Study	25 6:30 AM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 3:30-4:45 PM Lego Club 5:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Salem Ringers Rehearsal	26 8:30 AM Women's Bible Study	27 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study	28
29 8:15 AM Traditional Worship 10:00 AM Contemporary Worship	30	31 9:00 AM Piecemakers 1:00 PM In Stitches 6:30 PM Lessons for Life Bible Study				

“Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”
Isaiah 40:30-31

SALEM STAFF

Pastor – Mike Briggs
Deacon – Greg Meyer
Office Manager – Deborah Carlson
Financial Manager – Sandra Beyer
Coordinator of Children's Ministry – Connie Lou Swanson
Facilities Coordinator – Glen Helm
Organist/Pianist – Becky Klingelhofer
Choir Director – Scott Ruffing
Handbell Choir Director – Kevin Edstrom
Praise Team Directors – Becky Klingelhofer/Noreen Steinbrecher
Salem Outreach Facilitator – Dee Dee Frahm
Salem West Manager – Dennis Peterson
Mustard Seed Manager – Deb Selk
Mustard Seed Program Assistant – Sandy Archibald
Kitchen Coordinator – Kathy Schultz

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Wedding Coordinators – Kim Coughlin, Sherri Godfrey
Cradle Roll – Jessica Jones
Control Booth Coordinator – Meriellen Pisarek
Salem Lutheran Church Website – Meriellen Pisarek
Volunteer Youth Director – Dee Dee Frahm

Phone Numbers

Salem Lutheran Church: 218.534.3309
Salem WEST (giving ministry): 218.534.4962
Mustard Seed: 218.534.2945

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sherri Godfrey 218.534.3557
Lynn Hansen, President 218.678.2051
Diane Hein 218.678.2699
Randy Holmwig 218.527.0123
Meriellen Pisarek 218.839.3608
Cecil Schmidt 612.747.2679
Kris Schmidt, Secretary 218.772.0121
Ken Stebbins, VP 218.764.2587
Paul Tesdahl, Treasurer 218.546.5036

EMAIL

Pastor Mike pastor@salemdwd.org
Greg Meyer greg@salemdwd.org
Office/Debbi Carlson office@salemdwd.org
Connie Swanson connielou@salemdwd.org
Sandy Beyer finance@salemdwd.org
Glen Helm facilities@salemdwd.org
Salem WEST west@salemdwd.org
The Mustard Seed mustardseed@salemdwd.org