

# SALEM CONNECTION

## September 2017



Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444

Pastor: Mike Briggs

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### From Pastor Mike

*"I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

- Ephesians 3:18-20

I got to go through Itasca County on the way home from the men's fishing trip. The word "Itasca," for me, always brings back the time, decades ago, when I walked across the headwaters of the Mississippi River at Itasca State Park. As my boys and I stood in that small stream with water running over our bare feet, it was fun to imagine where that water would flow. The stream wound into the woods, barely 6 or 8 feet wide. It sure didn't seem like much, yet it would become the mighty Mississippi.

I think about my baptism in December of 1957 in NE Minneapolis, the moment a little water and the Word of God were poured over and into my life. It didn't seem like much – not even a real bath – yet it was a beginning.

With the promise of loving parents, my life moved into the stream of the congregation's baptismal ministries of Sunday school and confirmation and youth group. From there I flowed into and through the tumultuous waters of adolescence, through the rapids and uncertainties of college life, into the joys and depths of marriage and children, and finally rippling into the deep pools of rich faith community in seminary, and the pastoral vocation. This river (of small beginnings) continues to flow deeper and wider than I ever could have imagined.

Baptism often doesn't seem like much: a little water, a small family gathered, a congregation. But through them begins the life of faith. Through them comes the Word of God bringing grace and mercy and the promise of that which is to come. Like the mighty Mississippi, it doesn't take long for the baptismal river to grow deep and wide.

On Rally Day, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, our worship, faith formation, adult and youth ministries begin again, that all the baptized *"may have the power to comprehend...the breadth and length and height and depth"* of the river of God's love which flows in and through our lives.

Come, be refreshed and renewed in the waters of a faith community filled with opportunities for fellowship, Bible study, and service. Come, be a part of Salem's baptismal ministries like Sunday School, Learning with Legos, FINK, and SLY where young people are welcomed, equipped, and sent. Feel the river of faith grow deep and wide in, around, and through you.

- Pastor Mike



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Xavia DeCent
- 4 Cathy Aykens, Terry Fields, Becky Guida,  
Jodi Stensrud
- 5 Brandon Kunz
- 8 Egen Myers
- 10 Larry Birtzer, Dee Chileen
- 11 Devan Bartels, Deanna Olson
- 12 Nate Kewatt
- 13 Susan Erickson
- 14 Peggy Blistain, Gary Malek
- 15 Lee Uglen
- 17 Jack Gavin
- 18 Wilbur Radach
- 19 Adam Carlson, Walker Jones
- 23 RaeJean Anderson, Marilyn Holmwig, Myrna  
Nelson, Ellyana Nichols, Amy Vukelich
- 24 Madilyn Bodle
- 26 James Call
- 27 Meg McGuire
- 28 James Stirewalt

## SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Brian & Julie Chileen (2001)
- 3 Larry & Mary Birtzer (1960)
- 8 Brian & Meriellen Pisarek (1984)
- 9 Ed & Sherri Godfrey (1978)
- 9 Rod & Laurie Ogard (1978)
- 14 Gary & Becky Guida (1968)
- 15 Louie & Maridee Smilich (1956)
- 17 Jake & Dee Dee Frahm (2005)
- 23 Rick & Brenda Stirewalt (1967)
- 29 Randy & Lori Holmwig (1979)
- 30 Marshall & Marcia Anderson (1950)
- 30 Lee & Ellen Uglen (1978)

## USHERS

- 9/3 9:00 To be determined
- 9/10 8:15 Randy Holmwig, Helen Ryan, Herb  
& Barb Schoon
- 10:00 Ernie & Mary Erickson, Dean & Pat  
Sylvester
- 9/17 8:15 Ralph Carlson, Rich & Lynn Leino,  
Chuck Lubowitz, Karla Peterson
- 10:00 David Anderson, Lisa Slepica, Jay &  
Sue Stromberg
- 9/24 8:15 Ron & Sandy Kretlow, Clark &  
Joyce Marshall
- 10:00 Pat & Laura Guimont, Roger &  
Marlene Prill, Renee Gilmer

## READERS

- Sept 3 9:00 To be determined
- Sept 10 8:15 Shirley Huxford
- 10:00 Teppi Bundy
- Sept 17 8:15 Peggy Blistain
- 10:00 Ken Stebbins
- Sept 24 8:15 Cathy Aykens
- 10:00 Meg McGuire

## COMMUNION

- 9/3 9:00 To be determined
- 9/10 8:15 Jan Danger, Jerry & Shirley Huxford
- 10:00 Teppi Bundy, John & Marlys Orr
- 9/17 8:15 Kay Bendorf, Peggy Blistain
- 10:00 Renee Gilmer, Ron Meyer, Ken Stebbins
- 9/24 8:15 Cathy Aykens, Ron & Nancy Meyer
- 10:00 Meg McGuire, Roger & Marlene Prill

## COFFEE HOUR

- 9/3 John & Raye Cragun; Greg & Shelly Skeim
- 9/10 Glenn Suess & Ruth Helgesen
- 9/17 Terry & LeAnn Tichenor
- 9/24 Ernie & Mary Erickson

<b>Sunday Worship Attendance</b>	
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July 30	190
August 6	177
August 13	178
August 21	176

Council President  
Lynn Hansen

Salem Summerfest was a success. THANK YOU for all the work that made it a good experience for our church and community. With Summerfest behind us it is time to look forward to fall.

The Capital Appeal Volunteers delivered and will pick up envelopes from church members. If for some reason, your schedule did not allow for pick up of your envelope, please return the sealed envelope to the church. Thank you so much to the Team and Volunteers who make this three-year campaign to pay down our mortgage possible.

September is a busy and exciting time as we get back to school and our regular programming. Read about the TGIW schedule for this year. The Faith Formation Team has some fun ideas for educational opportunities for children and their extended family. We still have room for more Prayer Buddies if you would like to pray for a child in the congregation.

Join other area churches to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in Aitkin. There is more information elsewhere in this newsletter. There will be a combined choir directed by Scott Ruffing. Don't miss this great chance to worship and to share food and fellowship.

The Nominating Committee will be getting together this month to seek candidates for Council, Salem Outreach, Memorial Committee, Delegates to Synod Assembly and Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (Camps), and for next year's nominating committee. Please consider ways that you might be willing to serve.

In all the "busyness" of this month, don't forget to enjoy the blessings of beautiful weather, the wonderful colors, and the garden bounty. Thanks be to God.

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 calendar printed in this issue for a complete schedule of events.*

**On Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be ONE WORSHIP SERVICE outside at Salem WEST at 9:00 a.m. (no communion). Please bring your own chairs. In case of rain, the service will be held at the church.**

**PIECEMAKERS** quilt group meets each Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief, missions and people in need in our community.

**IN STITCHES** meets to knit or crochet prayer shawls or other items to be given in times of sickness or grief. Meeting times are Tuesdays at 1pm in the seating area near the fireplace.

**DIAPER MINISTRY** will be held in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, September 13 at 9:00 a.m. Bring scissors to help cut t-shirts.

ALL WOMEN are welcome to the monthly meeting of the newly combined **SALEM WOMEN'S CIRCLE** on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.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 – Tuesdays beginning Sept 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the education unit. Everyone is welcome!

**MUSIC REHEARSALS**

- † Salem Ringers – Mondays, 7:15 p.m.
- † Praise Team – Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.
- † Choir – Wednesdays, 5:45 p.m.

## THANK YOU

**LEGO CLUB** – for children in grades K-6.  
Wednesdays beginning 9/13, 5:15-6:00 p.m.

**4 BUCK SUPPER** – Wednesdays, beginning Sept 13 at 6:15 p.m. Worship begins at 6:30, so please get your food between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.

**TGIW (Thank God It's Wednesday) Worship** – beginning Sept 13, 6:30—7:15 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Tuesday, Sept 5

5:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee

6:30 p.m. Welcome Team

Friday, Sept 8

12:00 p.m. Festival of the Heart Team

Monday, Sept 11

5:45 p.m. Capital Appeal Team

6:00 p.m. Facilities Team

Tuesday, Sept 12

3:00 p.m. Library Team

Thursday, Sept 14

1:00 p.m. Outreach Committee

6:00 p.m. Executive Team

Tuesday, Sept 19

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Team

Thursday, Sept 21

6:00 p.m. Council

### MEN'S DINNER

There will be a special dinner for all of the Men who have volunteered to help with the October 28 Festival of the Heart Event. The Men's dinner will be held on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. A brief instruction time will be held right after the meal.



**The SALEM WOMEN'S RETREAT** will be held at Bay Lake Camp, October 6-8, 2017. Mark your calendars and invite a friend!

Registration forms are available in the narthex. Phone Ellen Uglem, 218-866-0012, with questions.

*Marilyn and I want to thank each of you for your continued prayers. We understand there was a prayer vigil held for us while I was in surgery. We are so blessed to be part of a caring and loving family at Salem. God bless!*

*Steve & Marilyn Holmwig*

*Dear Salem,*

*Thank you for all of the cards, prayers and well-wishes over the past couple of months. I sincerely appreciate it.*

*Cleone McGillivray*

*Thank you for participating in Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry Bluegrass Festival this summer! More than 450 people came for an afternoon of great music, great food, and great fun. Together we raised more than \$35,000 to support the ministries at Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion. Thank you for the great Glamour Girl Baskets for the Church Basket Challenge!*

*Gretchen Bachman*

*Dear Salem Lutheran,*

*My daughter Madeleine was baptized at your church over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. I want to thank you all so much for welcoming us into your church that Sunday. Pastor Mike and Pastor Lundgren were so open and easy to work with. John Greene and Gary Guida made an absolutely fantastic oak chest that now sits in my daughter's bedroom. And to whomever made the lovely quilt, it's beautiful. My grandparents (Rubow) have attended your church for as long as I can remember, and I can see why they love it so much. Thank you all!*

*Susan, Felix, Sophia & Madeleine Eickhoff*

*Thank you so much for again generously hosting our Prelude Series Concert this year. It is always a pleasure to play, meet audiences, and visit surrounding towns before our official season begins. We look forward to returning next year. All the best.*

*Scott Lykins (Lakes Area Music Festival)*

*Dear Quilters,  
We have been bidding on quilts all 18 years of the quilt auction during NE MN Synod Assembly. We do it because we love your beautiful “God’s work, our hands” quilts and because all the money the auction raises goes to the ELCA Hunger Appeal. I (Pastor Dan) have been on the Hunger Task Force for most of my ministry so I know the importance of your labor of love. We are always amazed at the hours you spend perfecting your piece of art. A big thank you for your efforts again this year! God bless your ministry!*

*In Jesus, Pastor Dan and Lil Holm  
Bethlehem, Twig*

*Thanks so much for donating the table runners to the Marketplace—greatly appreciated! Wish I knew your name so I could thank you personally.*

*The NE MN Synod Marketplace Committee*

## LIBRARY NEWS

September is **National Library Card Sign Up Month.**

Do you know that you do not need a library card to use the Salem Church Library? You may select books, games, movies, or music. Sign your first and last name on the card. There is a date due stamp on the desk to stamp the date due slip and the sign out card. Place the card in the box on the desk. You may keep books for up to 4 weeks. Please return movies, games, and music in one week.

When you return items to the Library, please put them in the basket on the desk.

If you want to take Outreach Resources, sign out cards are not required. Use the Resource and return when you no longer need it so that others may use it.

We received a movie that you may want to watch with your friends. **Where Hope Grows** is rated PG-13 so it is not recommended for young children. This is an inspiring story of a former pro baseball player, Calvin, with a self destructive streak. His faith in God is restored when he meets Produce, an

inspirational man with Down Syndrome. As their friendship develops, Calvin is reminded that hope can grow in the most unlikely of places.

The next meeting of the Library Team is Sept. 12th at 3 PM.

## THE MUSTARD SEED

Deb Selk, Manager [mustardseed@salemdwd.org](mailto:mustardseed@salemdwd.org)

A huge Thank You to all that helped out during Summer Fest this year. The store was filled with people all 3 days with many many compliments on how our store is put together and what a great outreach program we have.

It was the biggest week we have had other than Taste of Christmas since we opened the doors. We took in nearly \$7,000.00. I give 100% to our Volunteers. We wouldn’t be here today without all of you.

We did something different by selling helium filled balloons, which went over big.

We will put them on the agenda again for next year.

The store is gearing up for back to school with a lot of great clothing. The store is getting the fall décor out also. Stop in and see us. Also looking for more Volunteers. If you know someone send them are way.

Blessings, Deb

## Coordinator of Children’s Ministries

Connie Lou Swanson

[connielou@salemdwd.org](mailto:connielou@salemdwd.org)

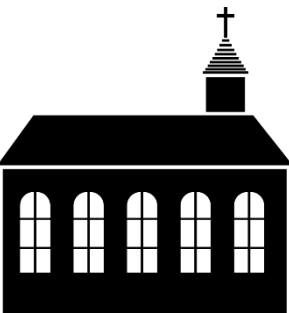
**Lego Club begins Wednesday, September 13 5:15—6:00 p.m.** We hope that families will stay for TGIW Meal and Worship from 6:30—7:15 pm. Adults and teens who enjoy working with kids and Legos are needed. Please call the church office if you will help.

We are planning some exciting opportunities for kids and families on Sunday mornings at Salem. **PLEASE watch for an additional Children’s Ministry Newsletter which will spell out the details for this fall!** The Faith Formation

Team met August 22 to finalize the Sunday morning schedule.

**BACKPACK BLESSING** - Time to bring your backpacks in for a special blessing during both services on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>! You will be invited to place your backpack on the floor near the altar as you arrive for worship. **NEEDED:** four families to serve as Greeters at both worship services on Sept 10. Duties include arriving early for worship, being present at one of the entrances to welcome people, smiling, shaking hands or fist bumps are encouraged. Contact Connie Lou Swanson to volunteer.

Looking Ahead – Trunks for Treats is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31 from 4:30 – 6:00 pm!



## Adopt-A-Wall

Our church is now going on nine years old and it is starting to show its age. There are a number of interior walls in need of repainting. The Salem Facilities Team is looking for volunteers to “Adopt a Wall” for repainting at their convenience in the next few months. A sign-up sheet will soon be posted! The Team has identified and numbered the areas. Please look at the list and decide which of these (more than one is acceptable ☺) you can volunteer to paint. We provide the paint—you provide the tools and labor. Let’s take good care of the building God has entrusted to us! The Facilities Team THANKS you!

**“Thank God It’s Wednesday” worship and the “4 Buck Supper” are coming back beginning Wed. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>! Supper begins at 6:15, Worship at 6:30 p.m. Bring the whole family for a meal, camp style songs, skits, and more. All are invited!**

## Freed & Renewed in Christ 500 Years of God’s Grace in Action A REFORMATION CELEBRATION October 14, 2017, 2:00 pm

Eight of the local Lutheran churches from Deerwood, Aitkin, Cedarbrook, Rossberg, Malmo, McGregor and Palisade have been meeting together for the last few months planning a REFORMATION CELEBRATION where we can all come together to worship and celebrate being Lutheran. We will be having this service at First Lutheran in Aitkin because it was the most central located church for this.

We will have Dr. Rolf Jacobson from Luther Seminary as our guest pastor/presenter who will lead the worship service and lead us in a workshop later in the afternoon. He is a dynamic speaker and exciting to listen to.

We will be having lots of special music during the service including two pieces done by a mass choir led by our own Scott Ruffing. If you are interested in being in this choir presentation look for more information to come! There will be special music by a church band and a contemporary praise band, too.

After the worship service a light snack and cake will be serviced for a time to meet others from our fellow churches and after being refreshed with goodies and coffee we hope you will stay to hear more from Dr. Jacobson.

Circle the date and stay tuned for more information. Hope to see all there!

God Bless!

The committee for the Reformation Celebration





## ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS

Have you checked lately to see if you have Choice Dollars available? Thrivent will no longer notify you. You must contact them. It's a very easy procedure and costs you nothing. Just call Thrivent Financial 800-847-4836 say Choice Dollars or visit Thrivent.com. If you have funds available you can designate at that time. There is a time frame in which you must call or you could lose the availability of those funds. That is determined on an individual basis. Call now as this is a great benefit for Salem.

Here are some of the ways your Choice Dollars have been used in the past. 25% is designated to the Building fund, 25% to Social Ministry and 50% in a Choice Dollars account. Monies in the Choice Dollars account have been used for the Music Ministry to help pay for another octave of bells for the Bell Choir. A pair of Conga Drums w/stand, a Djemba, Suspended Cymbals, a Cowbell and a Triangle for the Choir and Praise Team. Funds also have been given to the Memorial Garden account to be used as needed.

If you have questions, contact Ernie Erickson, Lois Hicks, Dick Muggli, The Choice Dollars Team.

## START SAVING YOUR COINS!



In mid-September Salem will once again have a coin collection for charity. Two years ago, our coin collection was to benefit solar panel installation in Phebe Hospital in rural Liberia where there is no electrical power grid. Salem collected \$1700 which is fantastic! The solar grid is now up and running and currently the operating room and the wards have

power and don't have to rely on expensive diesel fuel.

This year's project recommended by the ELCA will be collecting coins and dollars for the starving residents of South Sudan, Africa. South Sudan has been an independent country since 2011 and a severe drought has caused extensive famine. The project's target population is 180,000 severely affected people. The project is halfway through its one year duration and the target dollar amount needed for the whole project is \$9,161,771.

Salem is but a small part of the whole project but WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Stay tuned for further information as September gets closer.



**Thank you for your commitment to the future of Salem!**

We received many gifts to the capital appeal and will be sharing totals soon. A special thank you to those who returned their commitment cards and the many volunteers who gave of their time! If you have not returned your commitment card, please do so as soon as possible. The Capital Campaign Team will be following up with those who have not been heard from.

## A STORY WORTH SHARING...

A very cool thing happened at Salem in August. This congregation is so great at “big picture” ministry like Sunday morning Worship, Summerfest, Outreach, Lunch Bunch, retreats, etc. But here is a story about something that may otherwise go untold and unnoticed...

Often during the summer months, the children in the neighborhood enjoy riding around the parking lot here – *ah, that feeling of riding a bike all day long without becoming winded or nursing the inevitable achy joints afterward!* One afternoon a few weeks ago, a couple of local boys rode around in the morning and then had a snack on the lawn near the dumpster. When they finished eating, they looked all around, making sure they weren’t being observed, and then threw their snack wrappers over the fence into the caged area. When Glen, Salem’s Facilities Coordinator, observed this, he let the boys know that the next time they had something for the garbage, they should let him know and he would help them find a place for it. That was the beginning of a friendship.

Over the next several days, when the boys were riding around, they would wave and say hi to Glen. One of the boys told Glen that he was actually riding a friend’s bike since his own was broken. Glen offered to take a look at the broken bike and he fixed it so it was rideable. However, in doing so he noticed that the bike was in very poor condition and had no working brakes. When he looked at the wear on the boy’s shoes, he understood how he had been stopping the bike. This weighed on Glen’s mind. He shared his concern with Ernie Erickson. Ernie had a bike at home that he thought might work for the boy and brought it into the church.

When the boys returned to the parking lot a couple of days later, Glen presented the boy with the “new” bike on the condition that he ask his parents

if it was okay for him to accept it. The boy eagerly ran home to get permission and returned to say that he got the thumbs up. In the end, he decided to keep both the old and the new bike, using the old one for parts. The boy was overjoyed and his whoop of excitement could be heard as he tried out the new bike and the reality sunk in that it was truly his.

It is true that there is a lot of great ministry that happens in and through this place. All of us have stories to tell of how God has touched us through others and others through us. And after all, that’s what it’s all about.

*“Then the King will say, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth. Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignore, that was me—you did it to me.’” Matthew 25:40*

## Special Gift Ideas for Salem Lutheran Church

Many times during the year members and friends tell us that they would like to contribute something to our congregation in honor or memory of a loved one or to mark a special occasion. We are often asked what we may need and what would enhance our church, our worship services, or our ministries. Sometimes, our budget alone cannot provide for all of our wishes and needs, large and small.

The following list offers some suggestions compiled by our committees and leadership but don’t hesitate to suggest additional, creative ways to enhance our congregation and community. To contribute something on our Wish List, please contact Pastor Mike Briggs at or 218-534-3309 or [pastor@salemdwd.org](mailto:pastor@salemdwd.org).

- Concrete table and benches for the Columbarium



- Outdoor informational sign with welcome and worship times, etc
- Camperships- scholarships for youth summer Bible camp
- Vacation Bible School scholarships
- Mission trip scholarships

# Bu\$iness

## Overview of Mortgage & Building Fund Salem Lutheran Church July 2017

### Mortgage

Original Mortgage Amount	\$2,379,965.00
Principal Balance	\$1,665,432.80
Monthly Mortgage Payment (Principal & Interest)	\$ 10,844.00
Additional Principal Payment	\$ 4,564.00

### Building Fund

Beginning Balance 07/01/17	\$ 256,794.11
<b>Income Jul 2017</b>	
Gifts	\$ 12,036.33
Interest	\$ 71.20
Memorials	\$ 0.00
<b>Expense Jul 2017</b>	
Mortgage Payment	(\$10,844.00)
Additional Principal	(\$ 4,564.00)
Capital Appeal Pymt #2	(\$5,000.00)
Capital Appeal Supplies	(\$264.99)
<b>Ending Balance 07/31/17</b>	<b>\$ 248,228.65</b>

(The ending building balance is what we have in savings accounts dedicated to the building fund. \$79,800 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.

### A Prayer for Our Students

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of education in every form. As our children prepare to start a new year, may confidence be their foundation, may grace be their guide and may hope be their compass toward a bright future. I pray they would have eyes to see the needs of those around them and a heart to love well. May they face each day with positivity knowing that no matter what comes their way, they don't have to face it alone. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### A Prayer for Our Teachers

Dear God,

Thank you for the amazing teachers who have given their lives to serve our children. As they prepare for the new year, fill them with strength to lead, grace to guide and hope to thrive in their classrooms. Bless them beyond measure for their willingness to pour into the next generation through education. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(prayers from gatherandgrow.com)



## SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Council Meeting

July 20, 2017

Council Mission Statement: "We exist, with God's help, to provide leadership for the Salem Lutheran Church Congregation."

Present: Pastor Mike Briggs, Lynn Hansen, Sherri Godfrey, Meriellen Pisarek, Cecil Schmidt, Kris Schmidt, Paul Tesdahl, Di Hein, Ken Stebbins

Also present: Carol Brezina

Absent: Randy Holmvig

The meeting was called to order by president Lynn Hansen

Congregational input: Carol Brezina presented information on a coin box fund raising campaign to provide famine relief in South Sudan.

Pastor Mike opened with a devotion from *Embracing Stewardship*, chapter 7.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

- **MOTION:** to approve the minutes from Council meeting, June 15, 2017. MSC.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

- Expenses exceeded giving this month by \$4,715.60, leaving the Operating Budget balance at \$18,689.91.
- Giving for the first half of 2017 is ahead compared to first half giving for the past 5 years.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT

- Continuing to work on food distribution program. Looking into collaboration with area churches.
- Attended Men's Retreat, leading devotions and Bible study.
- Welcome Team has been meeting and is working on ideas for visitors and new members.

STAFF REPORTS were accepted from Greg Meyer and Connie Lou Swanson

#### SALEM WEST INSURANCE REPORT/UPDATES

- Discussion and **MOTION:** Salem Lutheran Church Council authorizes the writing of a letter to Grinnell Insurance Company to request prompt and full payment of all outstanding claims regarding the Salem WEST fire on March 1, 2017. MSC.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Salem Outreach – thankful for huge outpouring of support from community and congregation.
- Capital Appeal: Received report on feasibility study conducted by Mark Davy & Associates. Current interest rate of church building is 3.875%, reduced through refinancing. We were able to do this due to our history of timely payments and additional principal payments.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Higher Call Concert event: Dates for this fall to be determined
- Food Distribution Program: Pastor Mike gathering more information
- Wish List: Will put together a rough draft of Salem needs for potential donors

## NEW BUSINESS

- Labor Day Weekend Worship: Discussion of Worship & Music Team recommendations. **MOTION:** to have one 9:00 a.m. worship service on Labor Day weekend Sunday (Sept 3), to be held outdoors at Salem WEST. In the case of inclement weather, the service will be held at Salem Lutheran Church. MSC.
- Fall Worship, Music, and Education Schedule: **MOTION:** to have Sunday worship services at 8:15 & 10:00 a.m. MSC. **MOTION:** to proceed with Wednesday evening “Thank God It’s Wednesday” services, times to be determined. **MOTION:** to have Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Sunday mornings, between worship services. MSC.
- Sudan Famine Relief: **MOTION:** to approve the proposal for famine relief as presented by Carol Brezina. MSC.

## SOS

- Suggestion to be sure that the grand piano in the sanctuary is covered and protected during VBS and other non-musical events, to prevent damage. Children’s Ministry will be asked to cover piano next year for VBS.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pastor Mike will be on vacation August 14-18.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Schmidt

## September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> Capital Campaign Visitors collect packets <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship/Choir Sings <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches	<b>30</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>31</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>1</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study <b>9:45 AM</b> Lunch Bunch Prep	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> WORSHIP AT SALEM WEST (at Salem in case of rain)	<b>4</b> LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches <b>5:30 PM</b> Worship & Music Committee Mtg <b>6:30 PM</b> Welcome Team Meeting	<b>6</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>5:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:00 PM</b> FINK Guide Training	<b>7</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>8</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study <b>12:00 PM</b> Festival of the Heart Team Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Serpent Lake Association Mtg
<b>10</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:15 AM</b> Sunday School Rally Day <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship <b>1:30 PM</b> Salem Hosts Care Center Worship	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Unlimited Learning Meeting <b>5:45 PM</b> Capital Appeal Team Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Facilities Team Meeting <b>7:15 PM</b> Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches <b>5:30 PM</b> Girls Night Out Dinner @ Coach's Corner	<b>13</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>9:00 AM</b> Diaper Ministry <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>5:15 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:15 PM</b> 4 Buck Supper <b>6:15 PM</b> FINK Orientation <b>6:30 PM</b> TGIW Worship	<b>14</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>9:30 AM</b> Salem Women's Circle <b>11:30 AM</b> Salem Delivers Meals on Wheels <b>1:00 PM</b> Outreach Committee Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Executive Team Meeting	<b>15</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:15 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship	<b>18</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Festival of the Heart Men's Dinner & Orientation <b>7:15 PM</b> Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>19</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches	<b>20</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>5:15 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:15 PM</b> 4 Buck Supper Begins <b>6:15 PM</b> FINK Learning Event <b>6:30 PM</b> TGIW Worship	<b>21</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>6:00 PM</b> Council Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>9:15 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship	<b>25</b> <b>7:15 PM</b> Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>26</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches	<b>27</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>5:15 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:15 PM</b> 4 Buck Supper Begins <b>6:15 PM</b> FINK Guide Huddle <b>6:30 PM</b> TGIW Worship	<b>28</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>29</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>30</b>

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 ([youth@salemdwd.org](mailto:youth@salemdwd.org))

**Phone Numbers**

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Salem WEST (giving ministry): 218.534.4962  
Mustard Seed: 218.534.2945

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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

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