

# SALEM CONNECTION

May 2018



Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444  
Pastor: Michael Briggs Phone: 218-534-3309 Email: [office@salemdwd.org](mailto:office@salemdwd.org) Website: [www.salemdwd.org](http://www.salemdwd.org)

## Vacation Bible School

June 11-15, 2018 9:00 AM - NOON

For children age 3 through Grade 6

Registration forms available at the church or online at: [www.salemdwd.org](http://www.salemdwd.org)



There are many volunteer opportunities during Vacation Bible School for those who enjoy working with children and sharing your love of Jesus with them. You may contact Whitney Cragun, Faith Formation Coordinator, by calling the Salem church office.



*"God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'Yahweh, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you..."*  
- Exodus 3:15

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."- John 1:1, 14*

*"When the Advocate comes, whom I send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf." - John 15:26*

I sat behind 3 young women in a workshop. They were having trouble with the Trinity.

"When was God born?" Where did God come from?"

"How can Jesus be Son of God and God?"

"How can God have Mary for a mother?"

"How can Mary give birth to God?"

Each question begat another. Each answer from the speaker caused the questioner's face to scrunch up in confusion at the illogicalness of it all.

I pitied the poor speaker. It wasn't that he didn't do a good job. He did. He used metaphors like the 3 parts of an apple (skin, pulp & core) and the 3 forms of water (solid, liquid, & gas). It was all just too much for her to wrap her mind around. The doctrine of the Trinity does not fit easily into a material/literal mindset. It reminded me of the apocryphal story of the cosmonaut who, upon arriving in space and seeing no Jesus & no heaven, concluded none of it is true.

Is it helpful or important to know our God as Trinity? The church has proclaimed it for almost 1700 years. We'll celebrate Trinity Sunday again on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Why bother with something so confusing?

The Trinity is more a confession of our experience with God than arithmetic. Christians have experienced God in 3 distinct ways. All three are life-giving and important.

First, we know God as generous creator who made us and the world we live in. Since Abraham and Moses, we've also known this Creator as Father, and law-giver, the one who hears the cries of his people and who makes a dry way in the sea.

Second, we know Jesus as "God with us" in the flesh, "God for us" on the cross, and "God before us" in resurrection. Luther confessed that we really can't know anything about God without Jesus. All of our religious ideas are just speculation until our Lord actually comes and lives among us. And, there was no hope for us until Jesus created a way through death for us.

Third, we know God as the Spirit who makes believers out of us; calling, gathering, enlightening, and sanctifying us, and the whole church on earth since Jesus' ascension. Without the Spirit whispering faith into our ears through other believers, we wouldn't know the love our Lord has for us, or that we are forgiven, or that we will all be raised.

Trinity. One God who reveals Godself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is impossible as arithmetic. But it is a name bursting with good news, connecting mortals like you and me to the Mystery at the center of existence.

- Pastor Mike

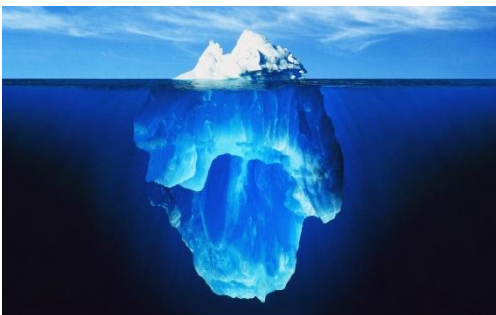
Hello Salem Family!

As some of you may know, my name is Whitney Cragun and I have recently joined the staff at Salem as the new Children & Youth Faith Formation Coordinator! I have the privilege of overseeing Salem's Children, Youth, and family ministries, so whether you have little ones in Sunday School (or even pre-Sunday school) or High Schoolers, you'll be hearing from me about programs, events, and opportunities for your families to continue growing in your Faith. For those of you who don't have kiddos in the nest anymore, stay tuned for opportunities- old and new- to get involved with our young ones. One of the most important factors in the spiritual development of our youth is whether or not make lasting connections with mentors in the church. *We* are all a part of one body, and your role is invaluable! Do not underestimate how influential you are, and how God can use just one short conversation to plant seeds and even change lives. As a lifelong member of Salem, I can say personally that each and every one of you influenced my faith journey, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Since I've started in my new position, I've been busy planning and researching the needs and wants of our families at Salem. With help from the rest of our exceptional and patient staff, I'm learning the ropes and all the moving parts it takes to facilitate meaningful programs and activities for our kiddos. VBS planning has kept me on my toes, Lego Club is always a highlight of the week, and I'm having fun dreaming and scheming about what the future holds for Salem.

For those of you who may not know my story, here is little more about me:

I was born and raised here in the Crosby-Ironton area, and graduated from C-I in 2010. I spent 4 years at the University of Minnesota studying Communications, Art, and Spanish, and I even got to spend a semester abroad in the United Kingdom. Since college I've tried on quite a variety of hats, including spending close to a year serving here at Salem WEST, working and playing out in the beautiful Colorado Rocky Mountains, and most recently, I spent 2017 with the organization Adventures in Missions, serving as a missionary in their program called The World Race. I traveled to 17 different countries sharing Christ's love in all kind of ways. My team and I taught countless English lessons, led worship for believers and non-believers alike, prayed prayers of healing, shared the Gospel with people we met from all over the world— and that's just the tip of the iceberg.



I love this image. It always makes me ponder the unending ways God is at work in the world. There are things we see him doing, the tip of the iceberg, yet there is an enormous chunk of His plan that without a different perspective, we might never see. Not only might we never see it, we might never learn God's plan for us in it.

On my mission trip this past year, the tip of the iceberg was all of the things my team and I did. The people we met and prayed for, the friendships we formed with each other, the exciting adventures we went on. God used us to do big things for His Kingdom. But really, the things happening right in front of us was just a tiny piece. His plans are so much bigger, better, and more grace and hope-filled that we could ever imagine. Let's dream big dreams for Salem and our youth; let's not settle for just the tip of the iceberg. God wants to keep using Salem as beacon of hope for our youth, our community, and this hurting world we call Home. I encourage you to join me in prayer, asking God to show you what plans he might have for us, and how we can better serve His Kingdom.

Blessings to you this Spring, as it has finally arrived!! With love,

Whitney Cragun



## USHERS

5/6	8:15	Ed & Sherri Godfrey, John & Margo Wojciak
	10:00	John & Marlys Orr, Ken Schultz, Glenn Suess
5/13	8:15	Randy Holmwig, Helen Ryan, Herb & Barb Schoon
	10:00	Ernie & Mary Erickson, Dean & Pat Sylvester
5/20	8:15	Nory & Peggy Hunze, Chuck Lubowitz, Karla Peterson
	10:00	David Anderson, Lisa Slepica, Jay & Sue Stromberg
5/27	8:15	Ron & Sandy Kretlow, Clark & Joyce Marshall
	10:00	Renee Gilmer, Roger & Marlene Prill, Pat & Laura Guimont

## READERS

May 6	8:15	Glenn Suess
	10:00	Roger Prill
May 13	8:15	Polly Pfllepsen
	10:00	Myrna Nelson
May 20	8:15	Carol Malek
	10:00	Mary Erickson
May 27	8:15	Shirley Huxford
	10:00	Laura Guimont

## COMMUNION

5/6	~ NO COMMUNION ~	
5/13	8:15	Jerry & Polly Pfllepsen, Shirley Taylor
	10:00	Ernie & Mary Erickson, Lisa Slepica
5/20	8:15	Don Hales, Herb & Barb Schoon
	10:00	Ernie & Mary Erickson, Lisa Slepica
5/27	8:15	Cathy Aykens, Jerry & Shirley Huxford
	10:00	Nancy Johnson, Kyle Skeim, Shelly Skeim

## FUNERALS

Ronald A. Storstad (graveside)  
James Perry "J.T." Thorson (Koop Funeral Home)

## TRANSFER OUT

Ralph Carlson

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Christine Myers, Delylah Voller
2	Dan Goodwin
3	Jeanne Stangel
4	David Steinke
5	Nancy Schmidt
6	Kathy Minarich, Jim Rude
9	John Orr
11	Ken Schultz
12	Sean McGuire
13	Jason Holmwig, Rick Johnson
14	Daniel Stirewalt
15	Kevin Stensrud
16	Elaine Dahlquist, Ken Nystrom
17	Joey Serfling, Bruce Swanson
18	Dorinne Cole, Kathy Schultz, Jean Shermock
20	Elizabeth Gavin, Deb Selk
22	Ashley Meyer, Glenn Suess
24	Rick Shafer
25	Marian Erickson
27	Tim Coughlin
28	Wendy Christenson, Vi Klungness
30	Glen Knutson, Peter MacKay, Donna Sanderson
31	Raye Cragun, Nancy Johnson, Eldon Reeves

## MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1	Gene & Barb Abelson (1954)
7	Chuck & Char Hausker (1988)
8	Les & Shirley Taylor (1955)
10	Richard & Eileen Leino (1975)
16	Glenn Suess & Ruth Helgesen (1992)
17	Dick & Lois Hicks (1975)
20	Greg & Jena Reed (1994)
25	DeMar & Arlys Wanstrom (1962)
28	Terry & Judy Fields (1960)
29	Claude & Renee Gilmer (1998)

## Worship Attendance

Wed, March 21	62
Sunday, March 25	160
Maundy Thurs, March 29	52
Good Friday, March 30	65
Easter Sunday, April 1	319
April 8	185
April 15	130
April 22	190

## EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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.

**QUILTING AT HEARTWOOD** – Thursday, May 3rd, 6:30 p.m.

**IN STITCHES** meets in the fellowship hall on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. to knit or crochet prayer shawls or other items to be given in times of sickness or grief.

**DIAPER MINISTRY** will gather to cut diapers on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

**SALEM WOMEN'S CIRCLE** will meet Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. All women are welcome.

**FINK (Faith Inkubators)** Confirmation for students in grades 7, 8 & 9 will be on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:15. Last FINK event of the year will be softball and a picnic on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**KOFFEE KLATCH** at Heartwood, Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Come for devotions and fellowship with Pastor Mike and friends.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

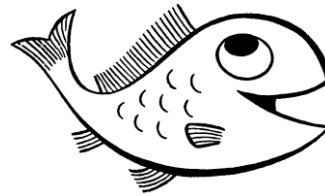
- † Wednesdays, 6:30 a.m. in the library
- † Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. in the conference room

**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 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! The last study of the season will be on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**LEGO CLUB** – for children in grades K-6. Wednesdays, 4:30-5:15 p.m. *Last Lego Club of the school year will be on May 16<sup>th</sup>.*

**MEN'S FISHING RETREAT** July 16-19, 2018 at



Kec's Kove on beautiful Lake Kabetogama.

**Attention: There is a place for YOU on the Retreat! Don't miss out**

**on this unique time away for fishing, fellowship and faith!** Registration forms and more information in the lobby kiosk.

Salem Men's Retreat  
(from Retreat Committee)

It is still snowing in Crosby. Go figure! I, for one, am getting a tad tired of shoveling this white precipitation. Although I am not sure and could not come close to a guarantee, one thing I am pretty sure of, is that beautiful Lake Kabetogama will be ice free on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July. That is when a number of Salem's men along with some friends and family will be dropping their leeches, crawlers and minnows in the water, hoping for a slot walleye to add to the fish fry or take back home.

Once again, Larry and Vivian Kec will be hosting our Men's Retreat at Kec's Kove, July 16-19, 2018. Their dock boys/men will be on hand to clean our fish and help with docking boats or other chores that might arise. If you have not yet noticed, this is a plug for your attendance at our upcoming trip. We still have some slots open and realize there are many who spent or are spending these winters in a warmer environment so as you return, consider this summer event. I can practically guarantee you will not be disappointed. (Well, if you happen to hook into a

sturgeon and fight it for a number of hours and then it breaks your line as you get it near the boat, you might be a little sad.)

If you have any questions about the trip, feel free to check with any past participants. Applications for the trip can be found on the church website or are also available in the kiosk of the church. We are looking forward to good fellowship, insightful studies and lots of smiles.

Salem Men's Retreat Committee



On July 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> the **BARBARY COAST Dixieland Band** will be performing at Salem for a Saturday night concert at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday morning worship services. The Barbary Coast Dixieland Band is a nationally known group, who for the past several years have specialized in traditional jazz church worship services. More info to follow, but mark your calendars!



**CONGREGATION EVENT: FINK End of the Year Softball Game/Potluck, Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30—8:00 p.m.** The game will be at the field north of the water tower and the potluck will be at the picnic shelter in the park across from Salem. Lots of fun for all ages!

Due to email constraints and having Salem's Office email blocked, the Executive Board has requested Debbi Carlson, to email prayer requests once a day.

Thank you, Executive Board

### COUNCIL/CONGREGATION PRESIDENT – Ken Stebbins

After a very relaxing and warm month in SW Florida it is time to be back in Minnesota and back with my Salem church family. I am sure many familiar faces will be reappearing on Sundays for worship as all the snow birds return from warmer locations. It is always amazing to travel across this great country and watch the changes that take place along the way, even at 70 miles per hour on interstate highways. God has provided us with so much to take in. The changing landscape from the snow covered fields and forests of Minnesota to the beautiful palm trees and blue waters of Southwest Florida.....all in the space of three days' time. To be able to escape

## LIBRARY NEWS

for a time and enjoy all that God has to offer is definitely a blessing.

Despite the damage caused by the hurricanes and bad weather of last fall, God has demonstrated once again how quickly we can recover from bad events. This is certainly not 100% true for everyone (I just received a news flash on my phone saying that the entire island of Puerto Rico is without power again) but the resiliency of people and God's good grace can never be underestimated.

And now it is back to work, carrying on the many ministries of Salem. With the coming of spring, there is a lot to do at Salem and in the community at large. With Easter behind us we now look forward to honoring high school graduates, spring cleaning of Salem's facilities and grounds, planning for VBS and other youth programs/activities (congrats to Whitney Cragun for taking on the position of Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator!), planning for Summerfest, signing up for the men's fishing retreat, preparing for another mission trip to Honduras, additional planning for the youth gathering in Houston this summer, continuing to serve and provide for needy families in the community through Salem West.....and the list goes on. There is definitely no lacking of opportunities to serve the church and help others.

So as we transition into the warmer months of the year (hopefully), prayerfully consider participating in these many activities. As we are learning in our Church Council book study this year, this is what being a "missional congregation" is all about.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> is National Day of Prayer. There are books on prayer on display for you to check out.

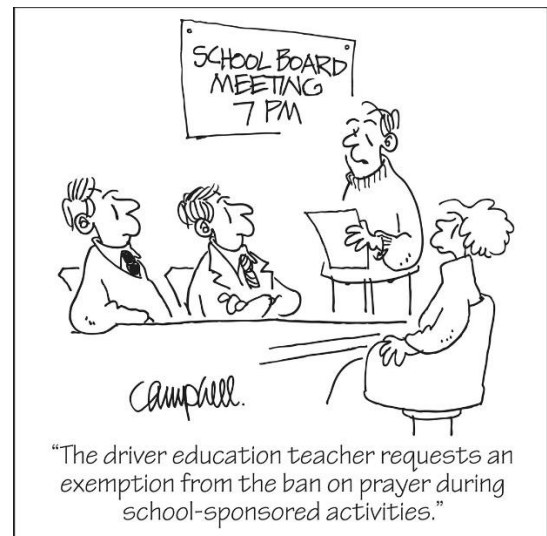
May 12<sup>th</sup> is the fishing opener. While the weather may not be what most fishermen are wishing for, it may be a good time to reflect on Jesus' directive to be "fishers of men". Consider evangelism opportunities by sharing books, music, DVD's or games with friends.

Mother's Day is May 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to talk about favorite books and authors with your mom and your family.

The DVD, GRACE unplugged, is available for checkout from the basket on the desk. Grace is an 18 year old musician who goes to LA to chase her musical dreams. Her overly protective father has to trust God to look after Grace and see whether she chooses fame and fortune or faith and family.

May is a time to honor and remember those who are serving and have served in the military with VE Day on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Armed Forces Day on May 19<sup>th</sup>, and Memorial Day on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We have interesting biographies to learn more about past wartime experiences as well as historical fiction from wartimes.

The next meeting for the library team is May 15 at 3 PM.



## THANK YOU

*Thank you so much for the Easter Lily. It is beautiful, and thanks to Don Olson for delivering it. Thank you to Sam who made the Easter Card –you did a great job, very pretty.*

*Clarice Lueck*

*Pastor Briggs & Salem Lutheran Congregation, I would like to thank you for the “Welcome” package I received after attending your church. I thoroughly enjoyed the worship service complete with bells and music. I am amazed at your outreach program and all the activities that are taking place. Your worship service on your mission field was also very informative and I enjoyed how the group brought home their activities to your congregation. It made a real connection. Again, thank you for making me feel so welcome.*

*Respectfully,  
Barb Hakes*

*Dear Salem Outreach,  
Thank you very much for the beautiful Easter lily. It brightens up my apartment and I am enjoying it every day! Thank you again very much!*

*Jo Blanich*

*Thank you, Salem friends, for the beautiful Easter flower. I am enjoying it very much. Also, thank you John, for your art work.*

*Arlene Stromberg*

*A big thank you for the lovely Easter lily and Elsa’s thoughtful visit. Salem is such a caring community of believers and we are so thankful to be a part of it. Blessings to you as you serve Him.*

*Wilbur & Arlene Radach*

*Thank you “Salem Lutheran Church Outreach” for the Easter lily for Abe. We both appreciate your thoughtfulness.*

*The Abelsons*

*Dear Salem Family,  
We thank you very much for the beautiful Easter Lily. We are enjoying it.*

*George & Eleanor Pettersen*

*Beautiful! Beautiful! Both the lily and your thoughtfulness! Thank you so much.*

*John & Mary Widmar*

*Thank you to Salem for the beautiful lily for Easter. We had a wonderful visit with Greg. Jerry had his aortic valve replaced in his heart. He’s doing very well and thanks everyone for prayers.*

*Love, Donna & Jerry Sanderson*

*Dear Salem Friends,*

*Thank you much for the beautiful Easter lily! They are beautiful! Also – thanks to Nancy for her delivery.*

*Love, Phyllis Giffin*

*I would like to thank all of you for your prayers during my Aunt Caryl’s a little more than 21/2 year battle with leukemia. At the time of diagnosis she was given 2 months to live. With your prayers, I was blessed to have her much longer. God brought her home peacefully in her sleep. Also, thank you for prayers and cards following her death.*

*Linda Stebbins*

*Thank you for your love and prayers for my hip surgery. Good to be home.*

*Elsa Ray*

*Thank you for all of the prayers for my daughter and family.*

*Audrey Enos*

*Dear Pastor Briggs,*

*We want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to share the Habitat story with your congregation March 18<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed your services and meeting so many wonderful people. We thank you for your investment to helping us end housing poverty one home at a time!*

*Gratefully, Ruth Ann Veith*



## THE MUSTARD SEED

Deb Selk, [msmanger@salemwd.org](mailto:msmanger@salemwd.org)

I would like to welcome back some of those snowbirds that have rolled in. Good to have you back. The weather hasn't been very cooperative these past weeks and I know everybody would love to see Spring.

We are doing Spring at the Mustard Seed with adding Spring and Summer clothing which one of these days will come in handy.

As you know we did not have the Easter bake sale this year. Instead we are having a Spring Fling Bake Sale and Mother's Day Apron Extravaganza. This will be held May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. You will be getting a call for baked goods for the bake sale. Plastic containers will be at the Mustard Seed, Salem West and in the church kitchen where you can pick up. Please bring your goodies to the Mustard Seed on Wed., May 9<sup>th</sup> from 7am-3pm. You may also bring them from 7am-9am on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

There has been a lot of beautiful items arriving daily. Stop in and check things out. We are always looking to add more volunteers, so if you're interested stop in and let me know.

Mark your calendars for Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of May for the Spring Volunteer Appreciation Supper, 5pm in the fellowship hall. RSVP by Friday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings, Deb



*Building houses, building hope  
in Cass and Crow Wing Counties*

2018 Home Builds – 7 homes this summer! One in Staples, Two in the Deerwood/Crosby area and four in Brainerd/Baxter. This year is the year to get involved and give back to your community! To volunteer call Karen at 218.828.8517 or Email: [volcoord@lakesareahabitat.org](mailto:volcoord@lakesareahabitat.org)

Everyone is welcome to help build a home. No experience needed as we offer on site training. Don't want to swing a hammer? Snacks and lunches are always appreciated.

Through shelter, we empower. Our shared vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

**Mission:** Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, community and hope.

**Vision:** Carrying out the teachings of Christ, LAHFH strives to ensure that everyone, everywhere has a simple, decent place to call home.

**Action:** Partnering with families in need, volunteers build or renovate homes and serve as agents of change throughout the affiliate.



Come and help with **SPRING CLEAN UP** inside and out at the church on **Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 a.m. Please bring rakes, shovels, garden gloves, etc. The more, the merrier! Hope to see you there!!

TRIO CON BRIO  
STOCKHOLM

*presents*

**“Unlimited Music—The  
Scandinavian Way”**

*Salem Lutheran Church in Deerwood,  
Sunday, June 17, 2018, 7:00 p.m.*

*~ No Admission ~*

*Everyone is welcome!*



Carina Cederwall, flute  
Jan Holmgren, oboe/English horn  
Stig Andersson, piano

# Bu\$iness

## Salem Lutheran Church Operating Fund

### Financial Results for March

	Adopted Annual Budget	Mar Actual <b>2018</b>	Mar Prior Year <b>2017</b>
Income	\$424,354	\$ 32,587	\$ 30,809
Expense	\$431,636	\$ 33,912	\$ 34,754
Net	<b>(\$ 7,282 )</b>	<b>(\$ 1,325 )</b>	<b>(\$ 3,945 )</b>

### Financial Results Jan – Mar (YTD)

	Adopted Annual Budget	YTD Actual <b>2018</b>	YTD Prior Year <b>2017</b>
Income	\$424,354	\$ 105,239	\$101,014
Expense	\$431,636	\$ 104,303	\$105,217
Net	<b>(\$ 7,282 )</b>	\$ 936	<b>(\$ 4,203 )</b>

## Overview of Mortgage & Building Fund

### Salem Lutheran Church

March 2018

#### Mortgage

Original Mortgage Amount	\$2,379,965.00
Principal Balance	\$1,572,350.62
Monthly Mortgage Payment (Principal & Interest)	\$ 10,844.00
Additional Principal Payment	\$ 4,564.00

#### Building Fund

Beginning Balance 03/01/18	\$263,142.42
<b>Income Mar 2018</b>	
Gifts	\$ 10,683.00
Interest	\$84.62
Choice Dollars	\$0.00
<b>Expense Mar 2018</b>	
Mortgage Payment	(\$10,844.00)
Additional Principal	(\$ 4,564.00)
<b>Ending Balance 03/31/18</b>	
	\$258,502.04

*(The ending building balance is what we have in savings accounts dedicated to the building fund. \$80,300 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 Sherri Godfrey or Financial Manager Sandy Beyer.*

SALEM HAS ADDED A NEW WAY TO  
"GIVE"

You can now give ONLINE  
go to [salemdwd.org](http://salemdwd.org) and click  
Make a Donation button

## Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry

Camp Hiawatha • Camp Vermilion  
...In God's Great Northwoods!

**Donate to VLM Camperships! Help bring more kids to camp!**

**Did you know that VLM subsidizes the cost of camp for every camper?** We never want the cost of camp to become a barrier for anyone to attend Camp Hiawatha or Camp Vermilion. In addition to subsidizing the cost of camp by 30% through generous gifts of support, each year we also provide thousands of dollars of camperships, which are available for all of our programming. **But we can't do it without YOU!**

**Help make camp possible for more campers. Make a donation today!** If you are interested in designating a gift to the annual fund to help provide this year's camperships, please contact the VLM office at (218) 666-5465.

### **Golf Scramble 2018 - Support Camp on the Course!**

Camp Vermilion & Vermilion Fairways **Friday, June 22**

**Get out and golf!** Support the ministry of VLM, give campers a chance to explore their faith and build confidence in themselves, all while relaxing on the green and having fun! This event includes 18 holes of golf, a catered dinner at Camp Vermilion's Voyageur Lodge, time to connect with camp friends and meet new ones, and the chance to experience a little bit of camp on the course! **Register by June 15th, and let us know you'll be there!**

For more information and to register for the Scramble, you can email or call us, or visit [www.vlmcamps.org/golf-scramble](http://www.vlmcamps.org/golf-scramble). See you at the first tee!

[www.VLMcamps.org](http://www.VLMcamps.org) • [vlm@VLMcamps.org](mailto:vlm@VLMcamps.org) • 800-331-5148 • 218-666-5465

Camp Hiawatha, 36944 Camp Hiawatha Road, Deer River, MN  
Camp Vermilion, 2555 Vermilion Camp Road, Cook, MN



Curran Hospital is a Lutheran hospital located in Northern Liberia, about 200 miles from the capital city, Monrovia. The hospital has 125 beds, outpatient services, a school of nursing, and supervision for 23 community health centers and clinics. Lutheran women have been supporting Curran Hospital for over 100 years. Solar presents an opportunity for a more reliable energy supply—more reliable for the hospital and the many people it serves. This Skip the Grid installation will provide clean, renewable energy to the hospital so it can continue caring for more Liberians.

***Coin boxes for this project will be distributed in May and collected on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for your support!***



## Salem Outreach Committee Meeting

February 14, 2018

MSC: Motion, Seconded, Carried

Present was Don Hales, Sandy Kretlow, Bev Kunz, Noreen Steinbrecher, Joyce Kohen, Terry Tichenor, Greg Meyer, Paul Tesdahl, Pastor Mike, and guest speakers Mike Burton (Exterior relation officer) and Christine Ackley (Program Manager) for the Initiative Foundation.

Don Hales opened with prayer.

The Initiative Foundation shared their investment programs for what we could do with our new donation that will be liquidated sometime the summer of 2018. We would like everything ready for when the transaction takes place. The presentation explained how endowments work and options for the SOC to consider.

Excused from meeting were the Initiative Foundation members, Pastor Mike and Paul Tesdahl.

Secretary's report from Jan 22 was approved. MSC

Financials: No report ready for our meeting, A motion was made to accept the amended update for Decembers Financial Report. MSC

Deb Selk is doing great, she is back to work after her injury at MS with some lifting limitations.

Salem West Report:

Things are slow at SW. Donation are few, but the outgoing continues to climb. They had 77 referrals in January.

The sewer froze so we have put hay on the mound with a dark tarp to hopefully thaw it out. It will have to be looked at this summer.

DeeDee and Dennis are requesting extra person for the summer months. Greg is going to check with CEP (Rural MN. Concentrated Employment Program) to see if we could get a person to help. There is a need for additional staff/volunteers with the larger facility and providing more services.

Greg was to meet with delivery people on Thursday morning and go over safety and maintenance of vehicles to report all instances (damage) to Greg at the end of each delivery day.

Discussion on how and when to approve purchases at the ReStore (Habitat for Humanity Store) All purchases must be approved by Staff before any purchase is made. The way to make payments is to be worked out.

A motion was made electronically the on Feb 15 to authorize Sandy Beyer to request a credit card with a \$1000.00 limit in the name of Salem West and Dennis Peterson to be approved supply purchases for the ministry. It was approved by all board members.

We are short supply of couches, bed and bed frames, etc. especially this time of the year. Pleas are going out to the community in many forms.

The Casino has donated 200 dressers for our use. We will be picking them up on Thursday, March 1.

Pizza Ranch on Feb 12, 2018 was a success. We made approximately \$450.00. Thanks to the following that helped: Noreen Steinbrecher, Ron and Sandy Kretlow, Dennis Peterson, Greg Meyer, and Debra Flam and Don Hales. Our next Pizza night is June 11.

The Chocolate Extravaganza raised over \$940.00. Thanks to Noreen and everyone who helped.

Council is asking for a request for donations needs (wish list) Outreach is always in need of furniture, bigger items like cars, trailer, boats etc. can be used for Summerfest silent auction.

Sunday February 18 the people who went to Honduras will give the sermon and a skit about what goes on when they are in Honduras.

No meeting in March for Social Outreach as many board members will be gone. Next meeting will be April 11

We need to update our technology at the MS: A motion made to install a system to project our mission and cause of the month for \$1595.99 to be paid for with grant money. MSC

We need to update our succession Plan for Social Ministry. Terry and Don will work with Greg.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Sandy Kretlow Secretary

Next meeting April 11, at 1 pm.

## Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2018

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

The regular meeting of the Salem Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on March 15, 2018 at Salem Lutheran Church, by Vice President Di Hein.

**Present:** Randy Holmwig, Mark Carlson, Di Hein, Meriellen Pisarek, Pastor Mike Briggs, Kris Schmidt, Sherri Godfrey, Terry Tichenor. **Also Present:** John and Elaine Greene **Absent:** Ken Stebbins, John Wojciak

**Opening Prayer** was led by Pastor Mike

**Congregational Input:** John and Elaine Greene were present and voiced their concern about the benevolence.

**Book Study** –“A Field Guide for the Missional Congregation” – Chapter 3.

### **Additions to Agenda:**

- Discussion was held regarding the need for expanded floor space at the Mustard Seed. A motion that the council approve the general idea of expanding the foot print of the Mustard Seed knowing that the funding for the expansion will be 100% from the Outreach funds and the final approval of Council to be when the costs have been determined was seconded. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- A motion to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on February 17, 2018 was seconded. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Utilities ran more in February due to the weather.
- 7205 Maintenance and 7220 Building Repairs are negative. Money was donated to cover some of those expenses.
- Motion to move the following dedicated funds: 2230 Sanctuary Rock Wall to 2215 Memorial Garden and move 2337 Mother Daughter Banquet to 2338 Women's Christmas Dinner seconded. Motion carried.
- Motion to accept the February 2018 financial report was seconded. Motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Charlie and John Frahm will receive 1<sup>st</sup> communion on Maundy Thursday.
- March 11<sup>th</sup> we will hear from Michele Plagman, one of 2 mission interpreters in the NE-MN Synod.
- March 18<sup>th</sup> we will hear about Crow Wing County Habitat for Humanity and the Deerwood build.
- Rev. Linda Johnson-Seyenkulo, the missionary we support, will be at Salem on Sunday July 1<sup>st</sup> to tell us about her work in Liberia.
- Council volunteers are needed to help cook and serve supper at the Brainerd Soup Kitchen on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> from about 4-8 p.m. Typically serve between 50 and 60 people.

### **Staff Reports – Deacon Greg:**

- Mustard Seed computer change over, to comply with the mandate of the new “chip technology as well as upgrading to a new version of Quickbooks, has had many issues. Deerwood Technology has been responsive and great to work with, and it appears the struggles are coming to an end.
- Sales have been strong at the Mustard Seed despite the lack of donations. Outreach has been working hard to get the word out that they need donations and it seems to be working.
- Salem West has had a strong volunteer staff all winter. Despite the seasonal travel, they have been able to fulfill all their duties of this ministry.
- Salem West has been working on Summerfest and are accepting and storing large donations.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Praise and Worship Committee:**
  - Barb Schiffler will be taking over the altar guild position.
  - 5-year plan, their two experiments: 1) Change in the Lenten services this year; 2) Music coordination with the gospel message.
- **Outreach:**
  - The Initiative Foundation shared their investment programs for what we could do with our new donation that will be liquidated sometime the summer of 2018. The presentation explained how endowments work and the options. Outreach is hoping to hear from a few other investment groups.
  - Deb Selk is doing great and she is back to work after her injury.
  - Salem West had 77 referrals in January and 70 referrals in February.
  - The Casino has donated 200 dressers for Salem West's use.
  - No meeting in March for Social Outreach as many board members will be gone. Next meeting will be April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Faith Formation:**
  - Discussed the Children/Youth Faith Formation Coordinator Position and discussed creating a priority list for the new Faith Formation Coordinator.
  - VBS is still in the planning stages. Dates for VBS are June 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Pastor Mike introduced a summer program for youth in grades 6 – 9, called Summer Stretch. First Lutheran of Aitkin Youth are doing this program and have invited our youth to participate with them.
  - The youth attending the gathering in Houston will be riding on the bus with First Lutheran Youth.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Update on Faith Formation Coordinator position:
  - Motion to hire Whitney Cragun to fill the Children/Youth Faith Formation Coordinator Position seconded. Motion carried.
  - Discussion held regarding her start date. Consensus was to have her start as soon as possible.
- Update on date for council to meet with Renae Shields:
  - Meeting set for May 17, 2018;
  - Renae Shields is a consultant supportive of our Outreach program;
  - She has asked that we contemplate our history, what guides us, our vision and how are we hoping to make a positive impact in our community.
- Nuts & Bolts Workshop on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids:
  - Attending will be Pastor Mike, Di Hein, Meriellen Pisarek and possibly Whitney Cragun.

### **New Business:**

- Update Security Protocol: A subcommittee to work on updating the security protocols was created and consists of Ken Stebbins, Debbi Carlson, Kris Schmidt and Pastor Mike.

- Kathy Schultz gave her resignation as Kitchen Coordinator effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion was held regarding this position. Tabled until next month.
- Discussion was held regarding adding a floating holiday to staff holidays. Motion that all employees receive one floating holiday added to their holidays subject to the existing vacation policy seconded. Motion carried.
- Weather Cancellation Policy. Tabled until next month.

**Suggestions, Observations, and Solutions:** None

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was seconded. Motion carried.
- The next regular meeting will be on April 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church.
- Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary.



SALEM STAFF

Pastor – Mike Briggs  
 Deacon – Greg Meyer  
 Office Manager – Deborah Carlson  
 Financial Manager – Sandra Beyer  
 Facilities Coordinator – Glen Helm  
 Faith Formation Coordinator – Whitney Cragun  
 Organist/Pianist – Becky Klingelhofer  
 Choir Director – Scott Ruffing  
 Handbell Choir Director – Kevin Edstrom  
 Kitchen Coordinator – Kathy Schultz  
 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

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Wedding Coordinators: Kim Coughlin, Sherri Godfrey  
 Cradle Roll: Jessica Jones  
 Control Booth & Website: Meriellen Pisarek

Phone Numbers

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

Mark Carlson	218.851.7236
Sherri Godfrey, Treasurer	218.534.3557
Diane Hein, VP	218.678.2699
Randy Holmwig	218.527.0123
Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary	218.839.3608
Kris Schmidt	218.772.0121
Ken Stebbins, President	218.764.2587
Terry Tichenor	781.223.0258
John Wojciak	218.546.5983

EMAIL

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Greg Meyer	<a href="mailto:greg@salemdwd.org">greg@salemdwd.org</a>
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The Mustard Seed	<a href="mailto:mustardseed@salemdwd.org">mustardseed@salemdwd.org</a>

# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches <b>5:30 PM</b> Worship & Music Team Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Lessons for Life	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting  <b>4:30 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:15 PM</b> FINK Learning Event	<b>3</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study   <b>6:30 PM</b> Quilting at Heartwood	<b>4</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>5</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Spring Inside/Outside Clean-Up
<b>6</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship  <b>7:00 PM</b> Worship for CIHS Graduates at Immanuel Lutheran in Crosby	<b>7</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Unlimited Learning Meeting  <b>12:00</b> Cuyuna Range Women's Club Luncheon  <b>7:15 PM</b> Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>8</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches <b>6:00 PM</b> Lessons for Life <b>6:00 PM</b> Faith Formation Team Mtg	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting  <b>1:00 PM</b> Outreach Committee Meeting <b>4:30 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:30 PM</b> FINK Softball/Picnic	<b>10</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>9:30 AM</b> Women's Circle Meeting  <b>6:00 PM</b> Executive Team Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study <b>11:00 AM</b> Koffee Klatch at Heartwood	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Serpent Lake Association Meeting
<b>13</b> <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship/Graduate Blessing	<b>14</b>  <b>7:15 PM</b> Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>15</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches <b>3:00 PM</b> Library Team Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> Lessons for Life (last session of season)	<b>16</b> <b>6:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting  <b>4:30 PM</b> Lego Club <b>5:00 PM</b> Praise Team Rehearsal <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study  <b>6:00 PM</b> Council Meeting	<b>18</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship	<b>21</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Outreach Volunteer Appreciation Dinner <b>6:00 PM</b> Facilities Team Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>1:00 PM</b> In Stitches  <b>7:00 PM</b> Welcome Team Meeting	<b>23</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>24</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>25</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Traditional Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Contemporary Worship	<b>28</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</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		

