

# SALEM CONNECTION

## June 2021



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

Phone: 218.534.3309

Email: [office@salemdwd.org](mailto:office@salemdwd.org)

Website: [www.salemdwd.org](http://www.salemdwd.org)

*Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how."*

- Mark 4:26

*"Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word.*

*Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.*

*When my heart is hard, break the stone away.*

*When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.*

*When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.*

*Lord let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil."*

*- by Handt Hanson, © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc*



I drove to Des Moines last weekend – in mid-May - and even a city kid like me could see that the corn was up in northern Iowa. The plants looked so fragile – row upon row of tiny seedlings. Who'd ever guess that they'll grow to be 8 feet tall in just a few months?

I watched the Minnesota farmers tilling and planting. It's incredible how technology has changed everything about the way we grow our food. Fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, no-till methods, and genetically modified seeds not to mention enormous machines - fitted with power and electronic gadgets I cannot begin to understand – have transformed farming in this country.

All of that, and we still don't make the corn grow. That part's a mystery. God makes the kernels grow. We can help them. We can prepare the soil, free it from weeds, and feed the seedlings everything they need. But only God makes them grow.

Passionate spirituality is like those corn seedlings poking out of the soil. We can't create faith or make ourselves passionate Christians any more than we can tickle ourselves. If God doesn't do it, it isn't going to happen. But the Good News is, God does do it. Just as at Pentecost when the Spirit of God filled the bewildered believers, so we pray, God will do so here.

But we can do some things. Like a farmer in the springtime, we can prepare the soil and give the tender shoots of faith all they need to thrive.

This summer as the pandemic recedes and you go about re-creating with your family and friends, take a little time to prepare the soil for faith to thrive. Read – the Bible or any Christian literature. Pray – for your country, your loved ones, for Salem. Engage in daily faith conversations and rituals in your family and small groups. Worship wherever you are. Serve – maybe at Salem or the Mustard Seed or Habitat for Humanity. Give – where you see God at work in the world. Such habits are like fertilizer to the corn seedlings. They don't give life, but they do create an environment where our faith can grow and thrive and become passionate. *"Lord, let our hearts be good soil!"*

- Pastor Mike



The 10 students in this year's class are:

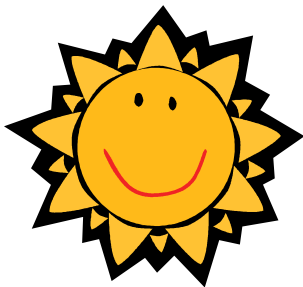
Madilyn Bodle	C-I	Nate Kewatt	C-I
Raymond Cavin	C-I	Alex Schmidt	C-I
Elle Chileen	Brainerd	Josef Slepica	Rise Academy
Anna Coughlin	C-I	Breanna Stirewalt	C-I
Noelle Jones	Aitkin	Connor Zender	C-I

They've done excellent work in a trying time. We wish them God's blessings as they take the next steps on their faith/life journey!

Northeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly was held via Zoom April 30-May 1, 2021. Pastor Mike and Tim & Kim Coughlin attended virtually. The assembly highlights are printed and have been placed in the kiosk in the narthex for anyone who is interested in reading them. Or contact the church office for an email copy.



**THE 7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PINE RIVER CANOE TRIP** is **Sat. June 26<sup>th</sup>**. We'll meet at church at 10am and return around supper time. Bring sun screen, bug spray, sunglasses, towel and extra clothes, water or beverage and snacks. Lunch will be provided. Sign up by Sun. June 20<sup>th</sup> so that we can get enough canoes and vehicles. (Drivers and canoes are needed too). Email Pastor Mike at [pastor@salemdwd.org](mailto:pastor@salemdwd.org) to be part of it.



### **SUMMERFEST AT SALEM**

For all of the previous volunteers for Summerfest, we would love to have you back to help. Many of you have great talents that can be used to help Summerfest be a huge success. Watch the church bulletin for a June meeting which will highlight the latest information on volunteer positions and duties.

**SILENT AUCTION** items can be large, outdoor type items such as boats, lawn equipment, autos, etc. Indoor items are considered to be unique, such as paintings, furniture (sorry—no couches), collectibles, one of a kind items, etc. Pick up of large items is available.

Questions? Contact Steve Pauly, [stevepauly46bc@yahoo.com](mailto:stevepauly46bc@yahoo.com) or 612-845-3300.



BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Teppi Bundy
- 3 Ryan Brovold
- 5 Nancy Herberg, Kathi Sharp
- 8 Steve Zierke
- 11 Brody Bodle, Henry Knutson, Al Sharp
- 12 Kevin Edstrom, Kay Johnson
- 14 Judy Johnson
- 15 Jim Mayne, Hallie Schmidt
- 16 Diane Boike
- 17 Eileen Leino
- 21 Krista Bordwell, Faith Fageroos
- 22 Shirley Davies, Alex Schmidt, Paul Tesdahl
- 23 Hannah Schmidt
- 25 Jenny Fields, Joe Tighe
- 26 Chuck Hausker
- 27 Jan Erickson, Carol Malek
- 28 Shirley Taylor

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Ron & Nancy Meyer (2000)
- 5 Rick & Laura Hann (1993)
- 6 Harry & Patty Kahnert (1970)
- 6 Jim & Jan Rude (1959)
- 7 John & Wendy Christenson (1975)
- 16 Kevin & Jeanne Stangel (1990)
- 21 Pete Berg & Peggy Blistain (2003)

THE POST PANDEMIC PANCAKE PARTY is Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.



Join us for pancakes, sausage, fruit and great fellowship as we celebrate the chance to get back together again. Thank you to Kathi Sharp, Sherri Godfrey and their crew of volunteers for preparing and serving the meal. A free will offering will be received.



Thanks to so many of you, we have reached our goal of raising \$20,000.00 for the Habitat for Humanity home in

Honduras! This is just going to be an awesome blessing to Bayron and his family! Hopefully this fall we will be able to return to Honduras to bless his new home.

Sincerely, Don Hales, Director of Outreach



**Did you know?** Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood was established in 1889, so that means that we are 132 years old! As the staff was getting ready to shred some papers we are no longer required to keep, we discovered a treasure box filled with journals from the past and Salem's unofficial Historian, Elsa Ray, agreed to take them home to read and sort through. In the process Elsa has discovered some things about our heritage that she is willing to share...

## **REMEMBERING OUR INHERITANCE by Elsa Ray, May 2021**

Sitting in Salem Lutheran Church today, I sometimes find it easy to take a lot for granted. But, after reading the enclosed records (*Elsa agreed to take some old journals we found and sort through them*) I appreciate the hardships our ancestors endured to give us the wonderful congregation we are today.

The wonderful story Luther Van wrote for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Salem in 1979 really sums up our story in two short pages.

Some notes and records are in Swedish/Norwegian (Sorry, I don't read or talk either language although my heritage is from both countries). I enclosed the copies because I was really fascinated by the writing and they tell us in early years who our ancestors were.

I find a lot of names of people I have known personally or recognize. I gather from records that the ladies of the church were very active in supporting the church building and minister financially.

It appears that the church was originally Norske/Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church, then became the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church. And eventually became Salem.

I found minutes of a special meeting of the Scandinavian Lutheran Church on December 29, 1938, regarding how to vote. The church is local property and does not belong to the synod. Found it interesting—a comment that ladies had the right to vote.

Then, on April 9, 1941, we became **Salem Lutheran** Congregation.

And—can't forget our famous annual lutefisk dinner. I found some receipts for 1955, 1959 and 1961. When I was younger, I remember helping my Dad wash/dry dishes in the Deerwood Auditorium shower room. I couldn't wait to be confirmed so I could be a waitress!

Salem holds many memories—different for each one of us—that we hold in our hearts always.

I was confirmed in the little white church, married in the “middle” church and eventually our current **Salem** Church will put me on my road to Heaven.

### ***The following is from a 1979 speech by Luther Vang on the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Salem Lutheran Church.***

Being no public speaker I have written down a few events, as I remember, about things happening through the years at and about our Lutheran Church in Deerwood.

One of the things that interested me in my younger days was the church steeple and the weather vane on top with the year 1899 written on it. The year that the church was built. I guess I have something in common with that because it is the same year that I was born. I remember one visiting pastor remarked, he hoped that the members in the congregation are not like that weather vane. Some years later a storm blew over part of the steeple, so it was replaced with a cross.

Being an old wood chopper, I remember that large wood burning stove in front. Those who came late for service during the winter time had a chance to sit up in front where they really got warmed up in a hurry. They seemed to have had a strange custom in church years ago. The men folks sat on the right hand side in church, while the ladies sat on the left side.

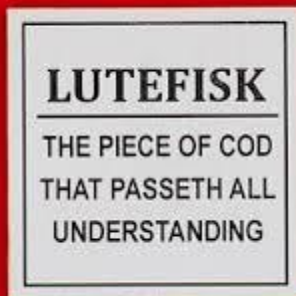
A lot of people walked to church those early years. Especially to "Juel Otte," meaning early Christmas morning services. Those who lived a long distance from church came in a horse-drawn buggy in summer and a sleigh in winter, then the horses were unhitched and tied to a fence post or tree so they wouldn't wander off during the service. Years later we find that the models to the Studebakers, the Stars, and many other models parked in the places where the horses once stood.

Money wasn't very plentiful those early years. One of our good neighbors felt embarrassed in church one Sunday when they took up a special offering for some mission work. All the money he had with him was a nickel for the usual collection. Well, that poor old lady in the temple got by with a penny.

I may add that June 20, 1915 was an important day for some of us, when four of us were confirmed in the former church building. Rev. G.J. Wettergren was one of the pastors here at that time.

I know that through all those years the pastors and members, who worked so faithfully for the church have this community a better place for us to live and work here.

**Letter from R.B. Boak Co., Foreign & Domestic Fish, of St. Paul, MN, September 15, 1961 to the secretary of Salem Lutheran Church...**



*Thank you for your letter of Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> and for your information, we have booked 1450 pounds of our best Lutefisk and we intend to ship October 31<sup>st</sup> which should put the fish in your hands on November 1<sup>st</sup> and will give you two days to pack in ice water. Just for your information, however, in shipping Lutefisk we soak it out so upon arrival it is ready for the pot. However, use your own good judgment when you receive the fish for sometimes you can soak it too long and the fish will be inclined to be mushy instead of firm.*

*We are shipping the fish to Karnowski's Market for we understand that the Ladies of the Church have a promise from Mr. Karnowski that he will arrange for payment through the bank.*

*We thank you for the order and be assured you will receive the best of our fish.*

**Further records from 1961 show that the receipts of that year's Lutefisk Dinner were \$1825.60, less expenses of \$512.83, leaving a net profit of \$1312.77.**



Does it seem like we have spent way too much time in front of a screen this year? With working from home, online classes, church live-streamed and on You Tube, Zoom meetings, virtual events and concerts, and more, June is the perfect time to get back to nature. The library has books about nature, animals, gardens, and landscaping to inspire you to get outside to enjoy the long days.

June is also an opportunity to do "just for fun" summer reading. We can "visit foreign lands, time travel to another period in history, and meet historical characters".

Father's Day is an opportunity to talk with dads and granddads about their favorite stories and authors.

You are still invited to make book requests on the desk in the Salem Library.

Happy Summer Reading!

## Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls us Through! Vacation Bible School July 19-23<sup>rd</sup> 9:00-Noon



We are so thrilled to be planning an in-person Vacation Bible School program at Salem for the week of July 19-23<sup>rd</sup> 9:00- noon! At Rocky Railway VBS, participants will experience God's word through the following memorable Bible Points—Jesus' power helps us do hard things, gives us hope, helps us be bold, lets us live forever, and Jesus' power helps us to be good friends!

Weather permitting we will be spending as much time outside at VBS this year, from Loco Motion game station, Chew Chew Snack time, Bible Adventures and more! We will be following all COVID safety recommendations from the CDC and MDH, and will inform all registrants of these details one month prior to VBS, and a week in advance if necessary, via email. Please understand that all plans could change at any time depending on

COVID restrictions. We are prepared to shift to a virtual, at-home VBS if the need arises. Registration forms are included in the Connection this month, and will be available in the church office and online at [saulemdwd.org](http://saulemdwd.org).

To make VBS happen this year, we are in need of volunteers to lead our "Crews" or groups of kids through their day at VBS, as well as help with the various stations, activities, and games. **We would love to hear from any train enthusiasts who may have model train/railroad items they would like to display for the kids during the week of VBS.**

If you are interested in volunteering this year in any capacity contact Marlene Prill (218-330-1731) or Whitney Fischer (218-839-3807). Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions!

**\*\*Please understand that there may be a need to cap registrations this year. Additionally, we will not be taking Monday morning walk-in registrations like we have in the past.\*\***

**\*Registration forms are included on another page in this issue**

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes from April 22, 2021**

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, Jeff Mitchell, Jena Reed, Terry Tichenor, Al Schiffler, Paul Tesdahl, Tracy Perpich, Mark Carlson

**Absent:** Renee Voller, Peggy Blistain

## Order

### Opening Prayer by Pastor Mike

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Approve minutes of the March, 2021 Council meeting. MSC.

**Motion:** Approve minutes of the April 11, 2021 Congregational Meeting. MSC

### Treasurer's Report

- Discussion of passing the offering plate during the service to increase the loose offering. It was decided that we can have someone walk the non-seating rows with the offering plate.
- Treasurer Terry Tichenor reviewed financial reports with the Council.

**Motion:** Approve the March, 2021 Financial Reports. MSC.

### Pastor's Report

- Pastor Mike reviewed the past month's ministry highlights. There are 10 graduating seniors this year.
- Pastor led study on *The Post-Quarantine Church*, chapter three.
- Discussion on adding a [prayer@salemdwd.org](mailto:prayer@salemdwd.org) email address for people to send in prayer requests. This would allow those on Facebook to know where to send them.

**Action:** Jena will get with Meriellen to get this set up.

**Action:** All read chapter four of *The Post-Quarantine Church*

### Committee Reports

- OGB: Pleased with the grants they have gotten.
- Building and Grounds: Clean-up day on 1 May. Discussion of how to pay for the LED replacement for the parking lot lights.

**Motion:** To accept the Facilities Team recommendation of using \$3,000 from line 2205 in Dedicated accounts and shift to line 7205 to expressly replace the sodium vapor lights with LEDs. MSC

- Faith Formation: VBS will be held July 19 – 23, 2021.

### Unfinished Business

- Capital Appeal: If we refinance the mortgage to 3.625% and continue to pay \$15,408 we will save money on the loan. Recommendation: Continue with MIF and send a letter to Deerwood Bank thanking them for their refinancing offer.

**Motion:** Accept proposal from Mission Investment Fund, refinancing from 3.875% to 3.625%

effective June 1, 2021 – next due date of the rate will be May of 2026. MSC **Action:** Paul will draft

a letter to Deerwood bank.

- Call Committee: MSP's have been submitted and approved by the Synod. At this point, there has not been any feedback.

**Action:** Chuck Lubowitz will draft information for the congregation. Jeff will talk with Chuck.

- Time and Talent form: Looked at the final version of the form.

**Motion:** Approve the finalized Offering Our Time and Talents form. MSC

- Bell Tower: Lee Midthun said he can run all the wiring overhead with no digging. Mr. Crook sent a wiring diagram. Thai said if it was not complicated, he would donate his time for concrete work. Some items to work out, but Teddy Skattum is sending the downpayment.
- Church schedule: Discussion of a full sanctuary with every other row occupied. Do we need to have another service? It was decided to have additional chairs set up for the overflow before adding another service. Discussion that several people have asked for treats during coffee time. It was decided to have treats! On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Capital Appeal will have cupcakes to thank everyone for their contributions to Salem's Mortgage fund.
- Summerfest: Al Schiffler and Steve Pauley have stepped up to head Summerfest. Since we have to apply for a food permit now to have it in time, we will apply to ensure that if we are able to have food, we will be ready.

### **New Business**

- The Synod is offering grants (\$1500 to \$2500 awarded next month) to get people coming back to church. Raye Cragun offered to do daycare. However, after the church was built the state inspected it and said the church didn't meet code for it. It was suggested that maybe a date night once a month so parents could drop off kids and go on a date!
- Transfer of funds: Hold off for now. Relook at this again in July or so.

### **Items tabled for future discussions**

- Strategic Planning Offsite
- Constitution

### **S.O.S.**

- None.

### **Announcements**

- In May, Capital Appeal will begin looking at 1 year or 3 year Capital Appeal. Hope to have recommendation around July.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on May 27, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

- Prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Prepared by: Jena Reed



# JUNE 2021

## Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Let's do good to all people. Galatians 6:10, NASB</p>		<b>1</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>12:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:00 PM</b> Worship & Music Committee Mtg	<b>2</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>5</b> <b>8:00 AM—12:00 PM</b> Serpent Lake Association Annual Meeting
<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:00 AM</b> Post Pandemic Pancake Party	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>12:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>10</b> <b>12:30 PM</b> Grief Group	<b>11</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Serpent Lake Association Meeting  Council Strategic Planning
<b>13</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>12:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30 PM</b> Executive Team Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Faith Formation Team Mtg	<b>16</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Outreach Governing Board Meeting <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Father's Day <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship  <i>Salem Campout- → Through Wed morning</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>12:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>23</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study <b>5:45 PM</b> Capital Appeal Team Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Council Meeting	<b>25</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study	<b>26</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> CANOE TRIP for grades 7-12
<b>27</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Piecemakers  <b>12:30 PM</b> Staff Meeting	<b>30</b>  <b>1:30 PM</b> Women's Bible Study			





**Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

**July 19-23, 2021**

*9:00 AM – Noon Age 3–12*

**One Registration Form per family**

DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ (office use only)

CHILD'S NAME	AGE	BIRTHDATE	GRADE COMPLETED

Parent(s)/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/Medical Conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

This person has permission to transport my child \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested donation of **\$15 per child**, not to exceed \$30/family, for expenses. NO child will be turned away due to inability to pay. Please make checks payable to Salem Lutheran Church.

~~~ Registration fee includes a Salem VBS Accessory ~~~

**PARENTS / GRANDPARENTS / SIBLINGS / FAMILY**

*Perhaps YOU are available to help with VBS! If so, please fill out the following section*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Info \_\_\_\_\_

I am available to help: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday (please circle)

I enjoy working with children who are: Preschool Elementary (please circle preference)

I am willing to help in these area(s):

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| ___ Crew Leader   | ___ Decorating            |
| ___ Games         | ___ Prep Workshops        |
| ___ Arts & Crafts | ___ Overall Helper        |
| ___ Registration  | ___ Friday Cleanup (noon) |

## **STAFF**

|                           |                                         |                                                                        |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pastor                    | Michael Briggs                          | <a href="mailto:pastor@salemdwd.org">pastor@salemdwd.org</a>           |
| Secretary (temp)          | Deborah Carlson                         | <a href="mailto:office@salemdwd.org">office@salemdwd.org</a>           |
| Financial Manager         | Ruth Blum                               | <a href="mailto:finance@salemdwd.org">finance@salemdwd.org</a>         |
| Facilities Coordinator    | Glen Helm                               | <a href="mailto:facilities@salemdwd.org">facilities@salemdwd.org</a>   |
| Praise Team Coordinators  | Becky Klingelhofer, Noreen Steinbrecher |                                                                        |
| Pianist/Organist          | Becky Klingelhofer                      |                                                                        |
| Salem Ringers Director    | Kevin Edstrom                           |                                                                        |
| Director of Outreach      | Don Hales                               | <a href="mailto:outreach@salemdwd.org">outreach@salemdwd.org</a>       |
| Mustard Seed Manager      | Jacob Walker                            | <a href="mailto:mustardseed@salemdwd.org">mustardseed@salemdwd.org</a> |
| Mustard Seed Asst Manager | Bev Kunz                                |                                                                        |
| Mustard Seed Asst Manager | Debbie Olson                            |                                                                        |
| Salem WEST Manager        | Tanya Smith                             |                                                                        |

## **COUNCIL**

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Jeff Mitchell, president     | 218-260-8140 |
| Paul Tesdahl, vice-president | 218-546-5036 |
| Jena Reed, secretary         | 218-670-0499 |
| Terry Tichenor, treasurer    | 781-223-0258 |
| Pastor Mike Briggs           | 715-410-5404 |
| Mark Carlson                 | 218-851-7236 |
| Tracy Perpich                | 218-838-7008 |
| Al Schiffler                 | 218-527-0086 |
| Renee Voller                 | 763-242-6382 |