

SALEM CONNECTION

August 2021



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

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“This Train is bound for glory, this train” was a line from our theme song this week at VBS, where lots of our members and some guest helpers worked together to provide a glorious Vacation Bible School Experience for 40 kids! We stayed on track with procedures familiar to us from previous VBS years, and volunteers from past years stepped up with overwhelming energy and ideas, providing 150% of their knowledge & expertise, and helped with getting us rolling on track at the workshops as we prepared for VBS. We gained about 4 great new Crew Leaders to our program this year, too! Huge thanks to all of our Crew Leaders for loving on and making connections with the kids all week. It was truly a joy to watch!

God inspired a fabulous decorating team: Whitney, Kris, Karla, Sue, and Jane, and many more assistants who worked together to construct our Glory Train, Rocky Mountains, train tunnel, and a giant waterfall for the Bible Buddies backdrop. Many volunteers helped at our workshops with cutting Bible Buddies out of thick cardboard from the boxes we scavenged from Deerwood Furniture, as well as boxes brought in by Lynn from Hansen marina. Posters were glued to cardboard, paper was crumpled and painted to look like rocks and mountains, crew bags were filled with lots of supplies for each day, and schedules were prepared and printed with the informative notes sent home to families each day!

Head Engineers, Di and Noreen, rolled in each morning ready and wonderfully prepared to get the Glory Train moving with the Sing & Play Express opening program, and the Rocky Wrap-Up at the end of the day. Each day was a new adventure with lots of fun songs to learn, kid-Vid movies, & Operation Kid-to-Kid information, which inspired the kids to donate money to help families in Ecuador buy Alpacas for their livelihood.

Railroad tracks taped to the floor down the halls kept the kids on track from Station to Station, including Imagination Station, Chew Chew Snacks, Loco Motion Games, and Bible Adventures with Pastor Mike. With an occasional fun detour on the track of course, taking them crawling through the train tunnel-- thanks Chuck and Karla for sharing your fun idea!!

Our Preschool kiddos enjoyed fun and activity filled days led by Raye, from Bible Adventures, to games, and craft time too. Special thanks to our Preschool Crew Leaders for taking extra special care of all of the sweet and energetic Preschoolers this year!

Everyone is an important cog in the wheel at VBS! Especially all of the behind-the-scenes people who make this big week come together! Our sound booth volunteers, registration and attendance helpers, and even folks who came in here and there for a few hours—all of your help made the week run smoothly, and made the kids feel seen and loved by many.

We could not have pulled off any of this crazy week without our dedicated and hardworking staff at Salem. Glen went above & beyond helping us get the building prepped and transformed into the Rocky Mountains—as well as get it all cleaned up! Debbi assisted with administrative tasks, and Ruth handled registration money etc. for us! On top of his already busy schedule, Pastor Mike did an incredible job at Bible Adventures teaching the kids our Bible Story/Verse of the day, with many interactive and creative skits, activities, and demonstrations!

A few more extra special highlights: Karla donated fabulous & fun keepsake photos for each child-- it's no small feat to get photos taken of those wiggly kids! Jena did an incredible job with the Spotlight slideshows featuring the different Crews acting out the Bible story, which she edited/prepared every day! Jena also coordinated our large group photo, and even shot a video of all the kids singing our theme song this year which was played in worship last Sunday!

We couldn't possibly name every name, with how many incredible volunteers we had step up to the plate this year. Please know that each and every one of you made an impact, and helped us to share God's love with our participants. To all of you congregation members who prayed for us, made donations to help pay for scholarships, helped with setup/teardown, and in general cheered us on from near and far—THANK YOU for making Salem the supportive and loving family that it is.

Love & Many Thanks,

Marlene & Whitney



“Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your work is not in vain.”

- 1 Corinthians 15:58 -

It's August already. For many congregations August is a bit of a down time as families finish up their summer activities and get ready for the beginning of the school year. Not so at Salem! August is filled with activity. For example:

August 1st is New Member Sunday. We'll publicly welcome all the folks who've joined our congregation since December of 2019. There will be a ceremony during worship followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to wear your name tag that Sunday (and every Sunday) so that they can start putting names with faces. Introduce yourself and invite them to share coffee with you.

August 13th & 14th is Summerfest. There are signup sheets in the narthex (lobby) for all the different volunteer opportunities that Summerfest provides – from rolling lefse to officiating at the silent auction. Every year it's a work of love that supports Salem Outreach and the Building Fund, and it

helps us get to know one another and our community better. Thank you to Steve Pauly, Al Schiffler, and the entire Summerfest Team for their good work coordinating and organizing!

Bring your lawn chair to parking lot worship at 9:00 a.m. on **Sunday August 15th. Sheltered Reality, Julie Fritz' drum corps**, will lead worship that morning (weather permitting). Those who want to be outside can sit in front, near the loudspeakers. Those who prefer can remain in their cars and listen on 100.9 FM. Offering will be received and Communion served. See you at worship!

August 28th is the Lutheran Lounge Act, Salem's annual talent show. It's full of laughs and music and talents you never knew Salem members had. It's a great night. Don't miss it!

August is also the time when the Faith Formation Team is gearing up for fall programs, and the Capital Appeal team is readying Salem's next 3-year appeal. Please keep them in your prayers as they do their important planning and organizing work, and step in to help where you can.

Thank you for all of your energy and enthusiasm and the talents you offer as we serve our Lord together here at Salem!

- Pastor Mike

CHURCH RECORD UPDATE

Baptisms

Parker Paul Perpich, son of Nicholas & Tracy (Roth) Perpich
Sponsors: Michael G. Roth and Korbyn E. Perpich
Baptized: July 25, 2021

Funerals

Kenneth Nystrom
Funeral: July 24, 2021



Warren Balfany
14879 State Highway 6
Deerwood MN 56444
612-790-6651

Annette Larson
513 Erie Ave
Crosby MN 56441
218-772-0131

Nathan & Jayme VanRisseghem
16212 Nokay Lake Rd
Brainerd MN 56401
218-821-0610

Larry & Marinell Holst
PO Box 369
Deerwood MN 56444
701-552-2915

Jerry & Ruth Lerom
500 Heartwood Dr Apt 203
Crosby MN 56441
218-545-8669

Nate & April Novak: Axel, Kael, Anya, Kade
19304 N Shirt Lake Rd
Deerwood MN 56444
218-534-9215



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Barbara Schmidt
- 4 JoAnn Cordie
- 7 Carol Brezina, Ellen Uglen
- 8 Pat Sylvester
- 9 Audrey Birklid
- 11 Noelle Jones, Ron Martin
- 12 John Cragun, Jason Jones
- 13 Teddy Skattum, Greg Skeim
- 14 Phyllis Giffin, Carla Kewatt, Cecil Schmidt
- 15 Pat Dugas, Megan Syrstad
- 17 Debbie MacKay
- 19 Karla Peterson, Rose Steinke
- 23 Laurie Ogard
- 25 Shirlee Bengston, Patricia Kahnert
- 26 Joyce Marshall
- 27 John Greene, Jessica Jones, Sheila Mayne
- 28 Audrey Anderson, Mary Jo Schoenike, Arlene Stromberg
- 30 Carol Blomberg, Nancy Tighe
- 31 Harry Kahnert, Bobbie Midthun

- 1 Jay & Sue Stromberg
- 4 Nory & Peggy Hunze
- 5 Peter & Debbie MacKay
- 5 Roger & Marlene Prill
- 6 LeRoy & Helen Ryan
- 7 Jeff & Heidi Mitchell
- 10 Brad & Kay Johnson
- 12 Jerry & Shirley Huxford
- 13 Glen & Nikki Knutson
- 17 Robert & Kay Cooper
- 17 John & Elaine Greene
- 21 Paul & Di Hein
- 21 Jason & Amber Holmvg
- 22 David & Rose Steinke
- 25 Jason & Jessica Jones

USHERS

- 8/1 Herb & Barb Schoon, John & Margo Wojciak
- 8/8 Mark Boike Ed & Sherri Godfrey, Randy Holmvg
- 8/15 Terry Fields, Clark & Joyce Marshall, Steve Pauly
- 8/22 Nory & Peggy Hunze, Chuck Lubowitz, Karla Peterson
- 8/29 Jan Danger, Roger & Marlene Prill, Becki Zender

READERS

- August 1 Glenn Suess
- August 8 Wayne Brezina
- August 15 Shirley Midthun
- August 22 John Wojciak
- August 29 Kim Coughlin





Salem Church,
Thank you very much for
all the kind words as I
move forward in school. It
means so much to have
the support from the
church and I will always

remember to follow God with everything that I do!

Thank you so much,

Madi Bodle

Thanks to the Crosby-Ironton Class of 1981,
celebrating their 40th high school reunion! Raye
Cragun (class member) is pictured here handing
over \$600+ to Karla Peterson, Salem's Lunch Bunch
Coordinator. The funds will be used to support the
community-wide distribution of lunches for
children.



SCRIP ORDERS

You may pick up a Scrip order form for August
anytime in the next week+. Return your completed
order form to the designated area in the narthex
by August 8. This is a fund-raiser for Salem's
Outreach Ministry—thank you for your support!

**Preparations are underway for the bell tower
coming to Salem! Photos below were taken
Monday, July 26.**



The Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen in Brainerd has resumed indoor meal service this summer. Salem is responsible for the second Tuesday of each month. There are a few changes but basically, it is the same. Numbers are down a bit and a take-out option is available (containers provided). Please let me know if you would be interested in serving.

Thanks,

Carol Malek

218-820-3329

malekonbay@gmail.com



August is a busy time for family gatherings, vacations, and community events. It can also be a good time to relax with a book or game.

Anytime that you are at church, you have the opportunity to check out

materials from the Salem Library. Please follow the directions posted by the library desk and return items to the blue basket on the desk.

We are still accepting requests for new materials on the desk in the library.

Students who read regularly build and maintain reading skills over the summer. Consider having a half-hour of quiet reading before bedtime. This will also help in the transition to "Back to School" bedtimes. If you don't have time for a vacation this summer, books can transport you to new places and different times in history.

If you are participating in the Prayer Cloud or a prayer chain, there are helpful books on prayer available in the library.

Happy Reading!

Capital Appeal Update

Thank you to all of you who completed the Capital Appeal Survey. As of our last meeting, we had 53 responses with 38 indicating a willingness to volunteer in some way for the next Capital Appeal Campaign. With volunteers willing to help with mailings and to distribute letters at church to avoid some postage, we can reduce the expenses.

We welcome Randy Holmwig back to the team and are very happy to have Audrey Birkliid join us.

The Capital Appeal Team was able to negotiate a \$5000.00 dollar reduction from the cost of previous campaigns using Mark Davy and Associates because of volunteers taking on tasks, Zoom meetings reducing travel costs, and re-using some written materials from previous campaigns. We are all aware of inflation and cost increases so we are very fortunate to be able to reduce the expenses for our next campaign.

The Salem Council following the recommendation of the Capital Appeal Team approved hiring Mark Davy and Associates for the next three year Capital Appeal Campaign (2022-2024). Their creativity, experience, and expert management of the our successful debt reduction campaigns from 2011-2020 was a factor in this decision. We had a cost for our church building of \$2.4 million in 2009 and we have paid it down to \$1,134,098.91 as of 6/30/2021.

The Capital Appeal Team will be contacting those who offered to help and will make you aware of other opportunities to serve. Karla Peterson is compiling a devotional booklet written by our members and volunteers to give us all a guide for prayer as we begin the next campaign.

Thank you for your continuing support of Salem's debt reduction.

The Capital Appeal Team (Audrey Birkliid, Ruth Blum - Financial Manager, Pastor Mike Briggs, Lynn Hansen, Randy Holmwig, Myron Midthun, Karla Peterson, Ken Stebbins, and Paul Tesdahl)

News from the Lakes Area Music Festival

Bu\$iness

Salem Lutheran Church Operating Fund

Financial Results 01/01/2021 - 06/30/2021

	Adopted Annual Budget	Apr - Jun Actual 2021	Apr - Jun Prior Year 2020
Income	\$462,159.00	\$102,029.71	\$80,321.18
Expense	\$453,459.14	\$104,246.61	\$101,820.14
Net	\$8,699.86	\$2,216.90	\$21,498.96

Overview of Mortgage & Building Fund

Salem Lutheran Church

March 2021

Mortgage

Original Mortgage Amount	\$2,379,965.00
Principal Balance	\$1,134,098.91
Monthly Mortgage Payment (Principal & Interest-effective 06/01/2021)	\$ 8,628.00
Additional Principal Payment	\$ 6,780.00

Building Fund

Beginning Balance 01/01/21	\$209,390.13
Income 01/01/21 – 06/30/2021	
Pledges Received	\$61,599.80
Gifts	\$2,794.50
Interest	\$366.38
Paycheck Protection Program	\$22,500.00
From Council	\$5,000.00
Expense 01/01/21 – 06/30/2021	
Mortgage Payment	(\$62,848.00)
Additional Principal	(\$22,820.00)
Capital Appeal (cupcakes)	(\$64.00)
Ending Balance 06/30/2021	\$215,918.81

(The ending building balance is what we have in savings accounts dedicated to the building fund - \$83,000 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 Ruth Blum at the church office. Any questions can be directed to either Council Treasurer Terry Tichenor or Financial Manager Ruth Blum.

Join the Lakes Area Music Festival as it opens its 13th season at the brand new Gichi-zibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd! On Saturday, July 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 1 at 2 p.m., the Lakes Area Music Festival celebrates the American spirit with its opening concert, **American Roots**. This patriotic program includes a kaleidoscopic orchestral fanfare by Mason Bates, followed by Jessie Montgomery's rhapsody of patriotic anthems, including the 'Star Spangled Banner' and 'Lift Every Voice and Sing.' Peruvian-American composer, Jimmy López Bellido, completes this trilogy of contemporary voices with a musical fiesta! Complementing these works by great living composers is Antonín Dvořák's venerable "New World" Symphony, including the soulful Largo, 'Going Home'.

For those who want an exclusive sneak peek at Brainerd's state-of-the-art Gichi-zibi Center for the Arts, the festival will present its largest fundraiser of the year on Friday, July 30 at 7:00 p.m. This gala event, titled **Seasons Recomposed**, will begin with seasonal-themed desserts and beverages sourced from local vendors as well as a backstage tour of the new facility. Then, Tchaikovsky Competition-winning violinist, Itamar Zorman and the LAMF string orchestra will perform Anton Richter's *Seasons Recomposed* -- a contemporary take on Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.

Tickets to **American Roots** are free of charge with a suggested donation, and registration is required. Tickets for the **Seasons Recomposed** Gala are available for purchase. To reserve a free seat for any LAMF events, sign up for a My.LAMF account at <https://my.lakesareamusic.org>. For more information, visit lakesareamusic.org or call (218)-ASK-LAMF.

Salem Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes from June 24, 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

Call to Order

Opening Prayer by Pastor Mike

Approval of Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Terry Tichenor reviewed financial reports with the Council.

Motion: Approve the May, 2021 Financial Reports. MSC.

Pastor's Report

- Pastor Mike reviewed the past month's ministry highlights. The PPPP (Post Pandemic Pancake Party) was well attended!
- Pastor led study on *The Post-Quarantine Church*, chapter five.

Action: All: Read chapter six of *The Post-Quarantine Church*.

Committee Reports

- Worship and Music: Because of lack of volunteers to fill communion cups, the committee recommended we continue with communion as is. However, there have been other volunteers recently, and Tracey will bring this up again at the next committee meeting.
- Facilities: Glen will be on vacation July 5-11. Need people to help with the cleaning while he is away.
- OGB: A statement was handed out regarding what has been given out at Salem West. This should be put in the Newsletter with a statement from Don.

Action: Pastor will talk with Don regarding this.

Unfinished Business

- Capital Appeal: Paul provided an update on the Capital Appeal process. Of the surveys handed out, 51 out of 198 were returned. An announcement will be made on Sunday asking for help for specific tasks.
- Call Committee: Jeff provided an update from the Call Committee.
- Bell Tower: Permit has been approved. Chime Master is in the process of building the tower. We are waiting for the template for where to put the sono tubes and bolts. Gary Guida has volunteered to spearhead the concrete work.
- Summerfest: Council is responsible for serving the ice cream.
- Daycare: Fire Marshall approved the facility. Cassie continues working the issues.

New Business

- Strategic Planning: Looking at strategies and tactics.
- Church Secretary: Debbi Carlson has agreed to a permanent position. Hours will be 9-3 Monday – Friday with an hour for lunch (25 hours/week).
Motion: Accept Debbi Carlson as the church secretary. MSC
- Constitution Review: Mark provided an update on their progress. The Audit Committee has not been active. We need to re-activate this.

Discussions

- Peggy's position needs to be filled. Add to agenda for next meeting.
Action: All: Come with names that might be interested.
- We need to consider Glen's working hours. If the daycare works out, they will be responsible for cleaning their area.
- Ruth will be gone for a couple months and will need someone to cover some items while she is out. She can continue to do a lot of the work remotely. This will be added to the agenda for next month.
Action: Terry will talk to Ruth about what will be required.
- **As a Council, we commend ALL of the people for making VBS happen!!**

S.O.S.

- Footstep stones were covered up during the spring clean-up. They were uncovered.

Announcements

- There is a short in the lighting in the parking lot. Ernie is working the issue.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on July 22, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Meeting Adjourned

- Prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Prepared by: Jena Reed



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

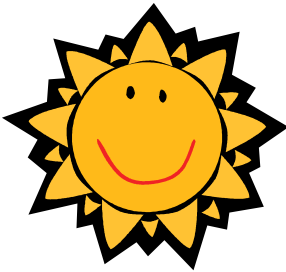
The Salem Lutheran Church Memorial Committee has awarded 5 scholarships to Salem's high school graduates. We have listed where they will be going to school.

- **Elle Chileen** – Lakes Superior College
- **Anna Coughlin** – University of Utah
- **Noelle Jones** – University of Minnesota, Duluth
- **Alex Schmidt** – South Dakota School of Mines
- **Connor Zender** – Bemidji State University

Congratulations!

AUGUST 2021

Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship	2	3 9:00 AM Piecemakers 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Outreach Governing Board Mtg 3:00 PM Executive Team Meeting 5:00 PM Worship & Music Committee Mtg 5:15 PM Movie Night	4 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study	5 5:45 PM Capital Appeal Team Mtg	6 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:30 AM Lunch Bunch	7
8 9:00 AM Worship	9 5:00-8:00 PM Lefse Prep	10 9:00 AM—Noon Lefse Prep	11 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study	12 8:00 AM Meatball Prep	13 SALEM'S SUMMERFEST EXTRAVAGANZA	14 SALEM'S SUMMERFEST EXTRAVAGANZA
15 9:00 AM Worship in the church parking lot. (please bring a chair)	16	17 9:00 AM Piecemakers 12:30 PM Staff Meeting Movie Night 5:30 PM Executive Team Meeting	18 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study	19 6:00 PM Lions Meeting	20 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:30 AM Lunch Bunch	21
22 9:00 AM Worship	23	24 9:00 AM Piecemakers 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Care & Share Leaders Meeting 5:30 PM Bell Practice	25 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study	26 6:00 PM Council Meeting	27 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:30 AM Lunch Bunch	28 7:00 PM Lutheran Lounge Act
29 9:00 AM Worship	30	31 9:00 AM Piecemakers 12:30 PM Staff Meeting				



STAFF

Pastor
Office Manager
Financial Manager
Facilities Coordinator
Praise Team Coordinators
Pianist/Organist
Salem Ringers Director
Director of Outreach
Mustard Seed Manager
Mustard Seed Asst Manager
Mustard Seed Asst Manager
Salem WEST Asst Manager

Michael Briggs pastor@salemwd.org
Deborah Carlson office@salemwd.org
Ruth Blum finance@salemwd.org
Glen Helm facilities@salemwd.org
Becky Klingelhofer, Noreen Steinbrecher
Becky Klingelhofer
Kevin Edstrom
Don Hales outreach@salemwd.org
Jacob Walker mustardseed@salemwd.org
Bev Kunz
Debbie Olson
Jadell Horner

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
Warren Balfany	612-790-6651
Mark Carlson	218-851-7236
Tracy Perpich	218-838-7008
Al Schiffler	218-527-0086
Renee Voller	763-242-6382

SALEM'S SUMMERFEST

EXTRAVAGANZA

Friday & Saturday,

August 13 & 14

9:00 AM—4:00 PM

FUN, FRIENDS & FOOD!! See you there!

