



# Salem Connection

## June 2023

Salem Lutheran Church 21276 Archibald Road PO Box 100 Deerwood MN 56444  
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Ahhh, summer! (Is it safe to say that word yet?) That joy-filled season of gardening and golf, fishing and swimming, biking and hiking is finally upon us. We can all finally thaw out from that endless winter! But amid all the play, there's always work to be done: a roof to fix, painting to do, a yard to maintain. Seems like we're never fully free of work that needs to be done.

As we enter these summer months, the church moves into the season after Pentecost, also referred to as Ordinary Time. As the trees leaf out and the flowers bloom, as vegetable gardens show signs of a possible harvest, this is the church season of blossoming new life. You'll hear me say way too many times that this season is "green for our green and growing faith."

### In summer, we move from the "who" of God to the "how" of faithful living.

The first half of the church "year", starting with Advent, is focused on who God is, so we hear Scripture around the themes of God-with-us at Christmas, the teachings and healings of Jesus, and God's sacrificial love at Easter. The Hebrew Scriptures, Psalm, and even the Epistle readings (letters to churches found in the New Testament) all point to what God is doing. The second half of the church year focuses on who we are as people who follow God.

Our Scripture readings now shift to encouragement on how to live in the unity that the Spirit creates. We will hear, how to guard our hearts from temptation, how to share the good news with others, our call to serve our neighbors with generosity and kindness, practicing forgiveness, and setting our hearts on the things above. While we bask in the goodness of God's love, there is still work to be done!

Ephesians was a great introduction into what that faithful living looks like. First, it points us to who Christ is and what Christ has done for us. Our lives are shaped and molded not out of obligation or fear, but by the love of God. Second, we live this life of faith in community, unified by that powerful love of God. Any divisions we create are broken down in Christ and God gathers all of us into one. Then, we enter into a new kind of life that leaves behind falsehood, greed, and gossip and we put on a new life of truth, anger without sin, generosity, forgiveness and kindness. We don't do this work alone, but in the strength of God's power, praying for one another.

There is work to be done in our hearts and our community in this season. Work that joins God in "breaking down the dividing wall" (Eph 2:14) and "growing up in every way into Christ" (Eph 4:15). And may we live in Paul's final words in chapter 6, "Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ."

With joy in Christ,  
~Pastor Amanda



# Worship Notes at Salem

## Thank you to those serving in Worship in June:

### READERS

- 4** Ken Stebbins
- 11** Myron Midthun
- 18** Wayne Brezina
- 25** Nancy Meyer

### USHERS

- 4** Joel Huntley, Ed & Sherri Godfrey
- 11** Randy Holmwig, Herb & Barb Schoon, Mark Boike
- 18** Roger & Marlene Prill, Clark & Joyce Marshall
- 25** Nory & Peggy Hunze, Chuck Lubowitz & Karla Peterson

### COMMUNION SERVERS

- 4** Wayne & Carol Brezina, \_\_\_\_\_ (need one)
- 11** Shirley & Jerry Huxford, \_\_\_\_\_ (need one)
- 18** \_\_\_\_\_ (need three)
- 25** \_\_\_\_\_ (need three)

### OFFERING COUNTERS

Myron Midthun and Dean Sylvester

## June Music Schedule

Making a comeback: summer hymn sings before worship! Write your suggestions on your worship card and join us before worship the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays to sing your favorites!

- 4** 8:30a.m. Praise Team Practice
- 11** 8:50a.m. Hymn Sing  
8:30a.m. Praise Team Practice
- 18** 8:00a.m. Choir Practice  
8:30a.m. Praise Team Practice  
9:00a.m. Choir Special Music
- 25** 8:50a.m. Hymn Sing  
8:30a.m. Praise Team Practice  
9:00a.m. Volunteer Choir



## Summer "Special Music" Opportunities

God speaks through beauty of all kinds: music, dance, the arts, and in the many skills and talents we have to share.

Do you have a song to sing or play? Poetry that speaks to you? Art to display or another talent?

### Offer these things to the glory of God!

Look for the signup sheet on the kiosk in the narthex if you have something special to share with the congregation.



Just a little decoration for Pentecost Sunday!

# Faith Formation Events

## Koffee Klatch at Heartwood

Salem's monthly Bible Study for Heartwood residents will be on Monday, June 12 at 1:00p.m. in the conference room annex.



## Go+ goes all Summer!

Hey parents! We will continue to email our Sunday curriculum through the summer. These video lessons and conversation starters are great during the week too! Keep your kids growing in Christ!

## VBS JULY 17-21 HERE AT THE SALEM SPACE STATION!

**It's time to spread the word to your neighbors, friends and family, let the kids know *that this year's VBS is out of this world!***

**We will be launching kids on a cosmic quest where they will have a blast *shining Jesus' light in their world.* Stellar VBS will rocket kids on an out-of-this world adventure with light years of faith-building stories, songs and fun!**

**Each day we will launch off to a far-off galaxy with... **Bible Memory Buddies:****



**COSMO**



**RINGO**



**LUNA**



**SOL and**



**HALLY**

**and for our preschoolers, they'll travel the stars with ASTRO! →**

**These Bible buddy characters will joyfully guide VBS astronauts through each exciting day during**

***VBS week of July 17- July 21, 2023***

**We are still in need of many members of the congregation to sign up to help with many, many, fun activities that will be happening here at the *Salem Space Station.* There will be workshops to make scenery, cut and paste signs, and oh, so much more to do!**

**We will begin our group preparation with an all-team-training on Tuesday, June 13 at 6pm.**

**More details will be on the Large Sign-up Board that will be in the narthex the first of June and sign-up... and join all the fun of guiding these kids in *shining Jesus' light!!!***



# "Using our Faith" Opportunities

## Salem Orientation

New to the community? Need a reminder of some church basics? We're happy to help! Come meet other newcomers, get Lutheran theology in bite-size, and learn a bit about how Salem operates!

**Wednesday, June 7 and 14 at 6:00-7:30p.m.**

Those wishing to join Salem will be officially welcomed on Sunday, June 18 during and following worship.

## Save the Date!

- ◇ Every Friday, Lunch Bunch 9-10:30a.m.
- ◇ July 11-13, Men's Retreat
- ◇ July 17-21, Vacation Bible School
- ◇ August 11-12, Summerfest!
- ◇ August 13, outdoor worship with Sheltered Reality Drum Group

## Office Help

Salem is looking for people from the congregation to answer phones, emails, prepare worship materials, print and fold bulletins, and gather and distribute mail. If you have two to three hours to give, we (Pastor Amanda) will greatly appreciate it! All the more if you're able to volunteer for those couple hours on a weekly basis. **During this time, the church office will be closed on Fridays through the summer.**

## CRMC Care Center Worship

Connect with the residents in the Care Center and encourage their faith as we worship together Sunday, June 11 from 1:30-2:00p.m. You could choose to help by bringing residents to worship, serving communion, singing along, or simply by being present.



## It's time for Lunch Bunch!

When school lunches are no longer offered, we join with other churches and agencies to feed the community's children!

All of June, July, and August (and September 1), Salem's volunteers gather every Friday from 9:00-10:30a.m. to prepare lunches. While a crew makes sandwiches, another counts out carrots, while another adds juice boxes and chips to the bags. When all is ready, we deliver them to local parks and places that families gather.

So join the work and have fun caring for the community! Questions can be directed to Chuck Lubowitz and Karla Peterson.

## Deerwood Summerfest

After much conversation, the Deerwood Civic and Commerce has decided to move ahead with the 2023 Summerfest August 11-12 — so Salem's work has begun! We are in search of donated items for our silent auction and are contacting local businesses for items as well. If you'd like to be on a team to make phone calls, pick up donations, and prepare the auction, please contact Jason Kempthorne via email at [outreach@salemdwd.org](mailto:outreach@salemdwd.org) or by calling (Monday through Friday) 218-381-2130.



## From the Salem Library

We are blessed to have access to books, movies, and games for all ages in the Salem Library. Many of us also have Little Free Libraries in our neighborhoods. Some of us live near the Crosby, Aitkin, or Brainerd libraries and we can even access materials without leaving our homes. Summer is a perfect time to take advantage of these opportunities. Reading in a hammock or lawn chair is a delightful way to enjoy summer days. Students who read over the summer retain or even gain reading levels. Those who do not read over the summer can lose vocabulary and word recognition skills.

If your children want different games, movies, or books during the summer when their school library isn't available, the Salem Library is accessible whenever the church is open. Sign out materials using the cards in the books or on the boxes. Place the cards in the container on the desk. There is a date due stamp for the cards and the date due slip. When you return items, place them in the blue basket on the desk.

It is good to have a few books at home for rainy days or for travel. If there is a book that you have enjoyed, consider writing a short book review for a future Connection article.

Happy reading.

The Salem Library Team



## Special Celebrations in June



- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Teppi Bundy         | 21 Krista Bordwell |
| 4 Nathan Vanrisseghem | Faith Fageroos     |
| 8 Nancy Herberg       | 22 Shirley Davies  |
| Kathi Sharp           | Ruth Lerom         |
| 8 Steve Zierke        | Alex Schmidt       |
| 10 Charlotte Cekalla  | Paul Tesdahl       |
| 11 Brody Bodle        | 23 Hanna Schmidt   |
| Henry Knutson         | 25 Jenny Fields    |
| Allen Sharp           | Joe Tighe          |
| 12 Kevin Edstrom      | 26 Chuck Hausker   |
| Kay Johnson           | 27 Jan Erickson    |
| 14 Judy Johnson       | Carol Malek        |
| 15 Jim Mayne          | Marlys Orr         |
| Hallie Schmidt        | 28 Shirley Taylor  |

- |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| 3 Ron & Nancy Meyer               |
| 4 Chuck Lubowitz & Karla Peterson |
| 5 Rick & Laura Hann               |
| 6 Harold & Patricia Kahnert       |
| Jerome & Ruth Lerom               |
| Jim & Jan Rude                    |
| 7 John & Wendy Christenson        |
| 16 Ken & Linda Stebbins           |
| 20 Paul & Kristy Tesdahl          |
| 23 Rad & Tina Royer               |
| 24 Paul & Susan Erickson          |
| 26 Greg & Elizabeth Gavin         |
| Mark & Carole Houghton            |
| 28 Steve & Arnita Zierke          |
| 30 James & Barbara Call           |

# **Salem Outreach Governing Board Minutes**

April 18, 2023

Present were: Pastor Amanda, Jason Kempthorne, Diane & Mark Boike, Randy Sykes, Sandy Kretlow, Kay Bendorf, and Cathy Aykens by zoom. Jacob Walker was absent.

MSC: Motion, Seconded, Carried.

Opened with prayer by Pastor Amanda.

Secretary's Report was sent out to board members. MSC

Financial Reports was reviewed by Cathy. MSC

Jason: Facebook has increased from 12,583 to 46,777 reviews.

Lunch Bunch grant has been sent in.

We had 154 referrals and completed 138 orders.

Volunteer hours total for the month of March was 3635.25.

Bailer Project: The following resolution was proposed and approved:

That the Salem Outreach Governing Board fully supports Salem Outreach in implementing Bailer Project to work with Common Goods to better handle soft goods, bale the soft goods, and sell the soft goods as a new income stream for Salem Outreach and Common Goods.

The Salem Outreach Governing Board further supports Salem Outreach in submitting an Impact Funding application to Sourcewell request financial support for Bailer Project.  
MSC

Construction Update:

A bid from Vision Electrical Services to install 6 high bay lights in building two for \$1560.00 from line # 7223. MSC

We were going to get a bid from Anderson Brothers for black topping this week, but it snowed again. We will be trying again for the end of the week.

We will be looking for a bid to put gutters on building 2 and 3.

Garage Sale will be May 19 and 20.

Closed with prayer and Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is May 16 at 1:00 pm.

Submitted by Sandy Kretlow, secretary.

Salem Lutheran Church  
Church Council Minutes  
April 27, 2023

Members present: Don Hales, Mark Boike, Al Schiffler, Peter MacKay, Pastor Amanda, Lynn Hansen, Renee Voller, Terry Tichenor

Absent: Sherri Godfrey, Tina Royer

The meeting was called to order by President Don Hales.

Pastor Amanda opened with prayer.

MSC to approve the agenda.

MSC to approve the minutes from the March 2023 meeting.

MSC to approve the Treasurer's report after explanation of some points.

Pastor Amanda presented her report that included Lenten services, Easter, and recent funerals.

Mark presented the Outreach Report. Highlights: Walkie Talkies were purchased to allow supervisors to be in contact while working in different areas/buildings. Morning meetings are being held. Cell phone use and standing around is a problem with a few employees. Facebook followers continue to increase. EFSP Award will be used for Lunch Bunch. The first week in the new location, the MS had 3500 items go out and 3300 items came in. Volunteer hours were 1296 for the month.

At 5:30 there was a motion and second to go into an Executive Session to address a personnel issue. Ruth Blum, the Financial Manager left. The position is posted on Indeed. At 5:38 the Council went out of the Executive Meeting and resumed the regular meeting.

Parents Night Off is scheduled for May 2 from 6-8 PM. Don, Debra, Warren and Lynn will supervise. The goal is to offer this once a quarter. We are looking for volunteers for the next time. It could be during the day on a weekend or an evening.

Pastor Amanda is in the process of scheduling a training session for Home Communion volunteers.

Sheltered Reality requested that they be allowed to practice and possibly store some equipment in the church building. Don Hales will be in contact with them to see what their storage request involves and the rehearsal schedule.

Myron, Shirley, and Lori have agreed to do an Internal Audit. When a new finance manager is in place, it will be scheduled.

The Salem Quilters will make up to 20 quilts for Honduras.

New Business:

\*Pastor Amanda and Don reviewed the May and June Church Calendar

\*Don identified the need for a seminar on Proper Behavior in the Workplace to protect volunteers, employees, our church and community. The Synod office will be contacted to schedule this for all staff and volunteers. There is not a charge for this.

\* There was a motion to modify the fee for non-member funerals where cake or bars, coffee, and lemonade are served to \$1.50 per plate to be in line with other area churches. The charge for non-member funerals on a Saturday may be reduced now that we have a facilities person willing to come in on Saturday.

\*Summerfest is struggling because of a lack of volunteers in the community. It will be held this year.

\* Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is planned for May 10 from 5-7 PM. Council members are encouraged to attend and to have the members of the committees that they represent attend.

\*Because Salem's Fidelity Brokerage Account still had David Anderson as the authorized individual, the following Motion: [Salem Lutheran Church Council adopts the 7 Resolutions found in section 6 of the Fidelity Brokerage Business Account Certification and names Amanda Kempthorne, Pastor, as the authorized individual on behalf of Salem Lutheran Church of Deerwood] was made, seconded, and carried.

#### Committee Reports:

Capital Appeal: Information will be in the Connection, Announcements, and Bulletins in May.

Columbarium: nothing new until spring planting

Facilities: Clean-up Day scheduled for May 6. Lights around the exterior of the church building are not working. Ernie would like to convert to LED. Further information is needed. The parking lot patching will be done. Striping will be scheduled next year.

Faith Formation: Kids Club- Rescue Dogs were rescheduled for May 3. Prayer Buddies will be encouraged in the fall. Kris Schmidt has been coordinating the Lenten suppers for a number of years and she is not going to continue. The Council and Pastor will need to figure out whether we want to continue the suppers and if so how to organize set up, food, and clean-up. Last day of Sunday School is Mother's Day.

Memorial: Scholarship applications were sent to seniors in the congregation.

Stewardship: Events are being planned throughout the year. Letters were sent to people who had not picked up their offering envelopes.

Technology: A meeting needs to be scheduled when Greg and Jena can attend.

Welcome: Is meeting next week. A new member Sunday will probably be in June.

Worship and Music: Sign up sheets need to be out for special music during the summer. They meet next week.

Outreach: merging volunteers from MS and Salem West into shared space is a challenge right now.

SOS Submission: The Legacy Chorale did not return everything to the original locations. Discussion followed. It will be referred to the Welcome Team with the suggestion that someone from Salem meet and greet outside groups and be present for the clean-up.

Next Council Meeting May 25th @ 5PM. Exec Meeting May 16th @ 3PM

Meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Hansen





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> <b>Pentecost</b> 8:00am Choir Rehearsal 8:30am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship	<b>29</b> <b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am Piecemakers	<b>31</b> 6:30am Women's Bible Study 5:00pm Salem Ringers Rehearsal	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 9:00am Serpent Lake Association Meeting 1:30pm William Huisinga Graduation Party/Recital
<b>4</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b> 8:30am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship	<b>5</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting 5:45pm Capital Appeal Team Meeting	<b>6</b> 9:00am Piecemakers 5:00pm Worship and Music Meeting	<b>7</b> 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm New Member Orientation	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 8:30am Praise Singers Rehearsal 8:50am Hymn Sing 9:00am Worship 1:30pm Care Center Worship- CRMC, Crosby	<b>12</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Koffee Klatch at Heartwood	<b>13</b> 9:00am Piecemakers 1:00pm Outreach Governing Board Meeting 3:00pm Executive Team Meeting 6:00pm VBS Leaders Meeting	<b>14</b> 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm New Member Orientation	<b>15</b> 10:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery	<b>16</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Father's Day</b> 8:00am Choir Practice 8:30am Praise Singers Rehearsal 9:00am Worship/New Member Sunday 11:00am Camping Trip	<b>19</b> Camping Trip 11:00am Catholic Charities Meal Distribution	<b>20</b> 9:00am Piecemakers Camping Trip	<b>21</b> 6:30am Women's Bible Study Camping Trip	<b>22</b> 5:00pm Council Meeting	<b>23</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 5:00pm Sheltered Reality Practice
<b>25</b> 8:30am Praise Singers Rehearsal 8:50am Hymn Sing 9:00am Worship	<b>26</b> 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>27</b> 9:00am Piecemakers	<b>28</b> 6:30am Women's Bible Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study	<b>1</b>

## Updated Summer Hours

**Church Office: Monday – Thursday, 9-3pm**

### STAFF

Pastor	Amanda Kempthorne	<a href="mailto:pastoramanda@salemmdwd.org">pastoramanda@salemmdwd.org</a>
Office Manager	(volunteers—see page 4)	<a href="mailto:office@salemmdwd.org">office@salemmdwd.org</a>
Financial Manager	Aimee Watson	<a href="mailto:finance@salemmdwd.org">finance@salemmdwd.org</a>
Praise Team Coordinators	Becky Klingelhofer and Noreen Steinbrecher	
Pianist/Organist	Becky Klingelhofer	
Salem Ringers & Choir Director	Kevin Edstrom	<a href="mailto:kevin7903@hotmail.com">kevin7903@hotmail.com</a>
Building & Grounds Manager	Dan Quinn	<a href="mailto:facilities@salemmdwd.org">facilities@salemmdwd.org</a>
Director of Outreach	Jason Kempthorne	<a href="mailto:outreach@salemmdwd.org">outreach@salemmdwd.org</a>
Mustard Seed Manager	Jacob Walker	<a href="mailto:mustardseed@salemmdwd.org">mustardseed@salemmdwd.org</a>
Mustard Seed Manager	Holly W	
Mustard Seed Team Lead	Debbie Olson	