



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

APRIL 8, 2019

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“He (Jesus) is not here, but has risen.” – Luke 24:5

EASTER PEOPLE LIVING IN A GOOD FRIDAY WORLD

Dear Friend,

What a wonderful time is spring! The days warm up and grow longer. The grass turns green and trees leaf out. Birds often sing. Flowers start to bloom. Farmers and gardeners prepare to plant seeds in hopes of a good harvest.

We will soon be celebrating the resurrection of our Lord. It is so appropriate that we celebrate Easter during the spring. For as new life emerges outside in the world all around us, so we celebrate Jesus rising to new life on the first Easter morning

Even as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, it is obvious that not all is well with the world. In a recent sermon, I quoted from one of my favorite books: “We are Easter people living in a Good Friday world” (George S. Johnson, pg. 100, Beyond Guilt and Powerlessness). As much as we wish it were otherwise, we certainly do live in a Good Friday world – a world that sometimes has rejection, betrayal, pain, violence, suffering and death.

As we sometimes struggle to live in this Good Friday world, never forget that we are Easter people. Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we Easter people have forgiveness for our sins, peace for our turmoil, and the great hope of eternal life. So as we live in this Good Friday world, remember the great joy, peace, and hope that we have as Easter people. Indeed, “we are Easter people living in a Good Friday world.”

In Christ,

Pastor Wayne

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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JANET KLOTZ will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 13. If you would like to remember her with a birthday greeting, those may be sent to Janet at Ironwood Residence #2 —910 East Arnold Road—Sandwich IL 60548.

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO MOURN THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE.

- KARL BINGHAM, only son of Frank Bingham, died last month.

- BLISS KLATT, niece of Pat and Don Clason and cousin of Kelly Clason, died in Hawaii last month.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT—Pat Clason*

CONTINUING—Frank Bingham*, Shelly Claxton*, Fran Martin*, Carrol Olson*, Mary Jane Fraley*, Beth Gosnell*, Carol Kimmey*, Mick Kimmey*, Ron Cunz*, Steve Guyer*, Ben Burkett*, Ione Bennett*, Jackie Cline*, Darlene Comiskey, Jay Herald, Terry Steinberg, Jake Wilkinson, Scott McGary, Ken Baumbach, Keith Fitzgerald, Theresa Hughes, Nick Hansen, Breanna Mann, Erin Stiver, Jerry Burd, Addie Moore, Alycia Ross, Ethan Reiss, Jim & Carol Wilhelm, Budd Wormley, Neil Stiver, James McMahan, Rich Davis, Mike Trierweiler, Shandol Dulin, Mark Perry, Jon Allen, Alex Cole, Brian Lee, Dan Schwerdtmann, Tanya Kimmey, Tom Wysoglad, Joe Petit, Mike Guzzardo, and Mandy W. & children

MILITARY—All people serving in the military, especially: Joseph Kimmey*, Garrett O'Dell, Danny Cassidy, Ross Magee, Brandon Jakubiec, Shawn Jakubiec, Kevin Zaleski and Forrest Grivetti

*Indicates Salem member. Please help us keep this list current.



APRIL MEMORY VERSE

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

- Matthew 25:40

MAY MEMORY VERSE

“And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age.”

- Matthew 28:20



APRIL COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The April 2nd council meeting opened with devotions and prayer. Pastor Wayne gave his report. The minutes of the previous council meeting were accepted.

The council: 1) discussed insights gained from the Congregational Resourcing Event; 2) reviewed the "Service and Stew" event; 3) heard that an outreach grant of \$200 has been received from the synod and will be used to pay for business cards and possibly outdoor banners; 4) set up a kitchen remodeling fund to which members may contribute; 5) discussed possible ways to thank Irene Yingling for her twenty years of quilt ministry; 6) decided to have a hot dog stand during the "More on 34" event on June 14 and 15; 7) appointed Michele Farley as an additional delegate to the synod assembly; 8) tabled action on the proposed congregation constitution; 9) heard read a letter from Valley West Hospital that the Community Health Network program has ended.

The calendar and worship attendance were reviewed. Reports from committees were given. The February financial reports were accepted. For February, the General Fund had an income of \$20,693 and expenses of \$18,096 and the Capital Fund had an income of \$10,783 and expenses of \$6,342. The meeting was adjourned.

Sunday, April 14th: Tithe Challenge Sunday

Tithe Challenge - Choose one of the following three options:

1. Give a tithe on Sunday, April 14.

First do the math, what's your annual salary? Divide it by 52. Multiply by .10 to find 10%. Example: Annual salary is \$45,000 divided by 52 weeks = \$865.38/week x .10 = \$86.53 for the offering plate. *Thank you for your generosity if you make this gift in addition to your regularly pledged gift.*

2. Give a tithe of your Tax Refund on Sunday, April 14.

Example: Refund is \$2,815* x .10 = \$281.50 for the offering plate.

3. Sign up with Simply Giving or complete a pledge card and start cheerfully giving.

Choose what percentage of your salary you are able to give and start giving consistently, either by signing up with Simply Giving (an electronic funds transfer program – get registration form from church office) or check on your bill pay offered by your financial institution.

*average 2018 IL refund according to SmartAsset

NEW!! for users of Simply Giving, the electronic giving program



Now people who give an offering electronically can pick up a laminated "offering envelope" to put in the offering basket. Users of this easy service no longer need to feel left out when the offering baskets are passed or that all eyes are on them because they aren't putting money in the offering plate. Counters will take the "offering envelope" back to the Usher Stand when their job is complete. These can be used over and over and over again.

If you would like to sign up for Simply Giving, ask in the church office for the application. Your offering is set up recurring either monthly or bi-monthly and users can designate the amount and which fund their money goes to – either General, Capital, or both. If you have questions, talk with Kelly Clason or Dean Lundeen.



Holy Week

APRIL 14—SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with palm procession

APRIL 18—MAUNDY THURSDAY

12:00 NOON LUNCH— all are welcome

1:00 PM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

7:00 PM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with stripping of the chancel area, symbolic of Jesus' humiliation at the hands of the soldiers

APRIL 19—GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 PM WORSHIP SERVICE including "Stations of the Cross" a Cantata for Holy Week by Lani Smith, sung by Salem's Traditional Choir



*Christ
is
Risen!*

Alleluia

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 21st, 2019

9:00 AM FESTIVAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

10:00 AM EASTER BREAKFAST—All are welcome to share a delicious breakfast of egg casseroles, pastries, fruit and beverages.

10:45 AM EGG HUNT—Children sixth grade and younger are encouraged to join in our Easter egg hunt.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO CREATE A CUTE PAINTED MASON JAR FOR YOURSELF OR A GIFT?

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a painting party hosted by Libby Welsch on Saturday afternoon, April 27 at 3:00 pm at Salem. A donation of \$5 per jar is asked to cover the cost of materials. All ages are invited to participate. This is an excellent activity for parents and/or grandparents to do with children. Please sign up if you would like to be included.

IRENE YINGLING IS RETIRING FROM HER LONG-TIME QUILT MINISTRY



Over the years, we estimate that Irene has made nearly 2,000 quilts, most of which have been delivered to Lutheran World Relief for distribution world-wide. She has asked that some of these quilts go to the Chicago Homeless Ministry this time. The next few weeks will be your last opportunity to purchase one of Irene's creations for \$50 each. Please make your selection and pay any Salem staff member. Part of these funds go to Irene to help with her expenses and part to the LWR shipping fund. Watch for announcement of plans in the near future to recognize and honor Irene's faithful ministry.

BLESSING BOX—The Blessing Box (Little Free Pantry) which was announced in the March *LIFE* is on track to be installed and ready to use early in May. Jake Mitchell would like to thank those who have generously donated to this project. Donations will still be accepted.



MISSION COMMITTEE SEEKING PROJECT

Salem's Mission Committee is seeking a local mission project for 2019. If you have suggestions of an individual or organization who could use our help, please speak to Patty Farley or Walt Farley. In the past we have painted a house for a resident and stained decks at Equine Dreams. We are open to helping any individual or organization in need of our help.

Please complete this form and return to Salem to reserve Easter lily plants to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter worship services. Order deadline is Sunday, April 14.

NAME _____ How Many? _____

How shall we list in the bulletin?

Given by _____

Given in memory of _____

Given in honor of _____

I will pick up my plant(s) after Easter: YES _____ NO _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please enclose payment of \$10.00 per plant with your order.



COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP FEAST—ALL ARE WELCOME!



(sponsored by Sandwich-Somonauk Ministerial Alliance)

Tuesday, April 23—4:30-6:00 pm

Somonauk Baptist Church, 315 East North Street, Somonauk



Salem is asked to provide salads for this dinner. Please sign-up in the narthex if you can help.

These free community dinners are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month with seven local churches taking turns hosting. All are welcome to come and enjoy the good food and fellowship. The May feast will be held at Nazarene Church on May 28.

HEALTH SCREENING AT SALEM ON APRIL 24—Screenings will be offered at Salem on Wednesday, April 24. Appointments are necessary. Full brochures are available at the church and have been e-mailed to members for whom we have e-mail addresses.

SUMMER LEARNING CIRCLES—Salem's Christian Education Committee is once again planning to hold Inter-Generational Learning Circles each Sunday morning beginning May 26. The goal is to provide activities which are not only informative and educational, but fun for all ages as well. The committee is open to suggestions from the congregation. What activities would you enjoy? Is there some type of 30-45 minute program you or someone you know might care to offer? Please speak to committee members Michele Farley, Bonnie Guyer or Sharon Wallis if you have anything to share.

SOCIAL MEDIA TASK FORCE—Anyone with experience and knowledge about social media for organizations is welcome to talk with Kelly Clason. She is putting together a Social Media Task Force to look at how Salem can use the website and Facebook page to communicate with our congregation and members of the community who may be searching for a place of worship.

Did you know that Salem has a website and a Facebook page? Check us out at wearesalemlutheran.org, and search: Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Sandwich Illinois to find and LIKE us on Facebook.



CHICAGO HOMELESS MINISTRY

3N1 Youth Group's next Chicago Homeless Ministry trip is Saturday, April 13. They will be taking the train to Chicago, loaded down with many donations for people living and sleeping on the streets. They talk with them, pray with them and give them stuff. What stuff you ask? Here is a list of items we typically bring to them: Men's Winter Coats (L - XXL), Men's Warm Socks, Men's Hoodie sweatshirts (L or XL), Hand and foot warmers (Walmart in the hunting/camping department), Blankets, Small New Testament Bibles (Dollar Store), Men's reading glasses (Dollar Store), Granola Bars, Candy, Water bottles, McDonald's or Sub Way gift cards, Cash (used to feed people or to purchase items they need), Hygiene kits (soap, washcloth, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, comb, lotion, chapstick—these fit very nicely into a gallon sized Ziplock bag. Please NO mouthwash or razors).

Salem's Sunday School has chosen this ministry as the recipient of their sharing project for Lent. They invited the congregation to join them in collecting any of the above items to help in this mission. There is a box in the narthex to receive your contributions. They are SO GRATEFUL for the wonderful donations received in the past few weeks—especially the suitcases! This collection will be ongoing. Donations will be accepted at Salem at ANY time.

God's Work. Our hands.



FAMILY SERVICE AGENCY

PRESENTS THE INAUGURAL



TO SUPPORT YOUTH MENTORING

Salem's Sunday School and friends participated in Spare Time for Kids at Idle Hour Lanes on March 10. Twenty-one bowlers and eleven "cheerleaders" earned \$494 for Family Service Agency's Youth Mentoring Program. Thanks to all who supported this effort.



LET'S CLEAN UP OUR TOWN ON EARTH DAY.

Salem's Outreach Committee has invited the Sunday School students and members of all ages to observe Earth Day, April 22, 2019 by participating in a walk through some of the neighborhoods of the Sandwich community cleaning up litter that has accumulated over the winter. Join us at 11:00 am at Salem on Monday, April 22 (non-attendance day for schools). We will do our clean-up walk for about an hour and finish at the church for lunch.

VOLUNTEER AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK—Our shift for this month is scheduled for April 16. Plan ahead if you would like to join us in May. Our scheduled date is Tuesday, May 21. We meet at the church parking lot at 8:00 am to carpool, and we stop for lunch on the way home. There will be a sign-up sheet for May in the narthex soon. If you have questions, please ask Walt or Mickey Farley.



FIRST ROAD WALK APRIL 27—Salem will once again participate in DeKalb County's Adopt-a-Highway project. We have been cleaning our assigned stretch of West Sandwich Road four times each year since 2008. Our first walk of 2019 is scheduled for Saturday morning, April 27. Volunteers meet at Prairie View School parking lot at 8:00 am. The walk usually takes an hour to an hour and a half, depending on the number of volunteers. Safety vests and bags are supplied. Walkers of all ages are encouraged to join in. Volunteers should wear long pants, sturdy boots or shoes, and work gloves.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS FOR MAY—Salem's Meals-on-Wheels coordinator, Laura Caupert, is working on the schedule of volunteer drivers for the month of May. If Laura asks for your help, please consider saying "YES". If she doesn't ask you, please volunteer!

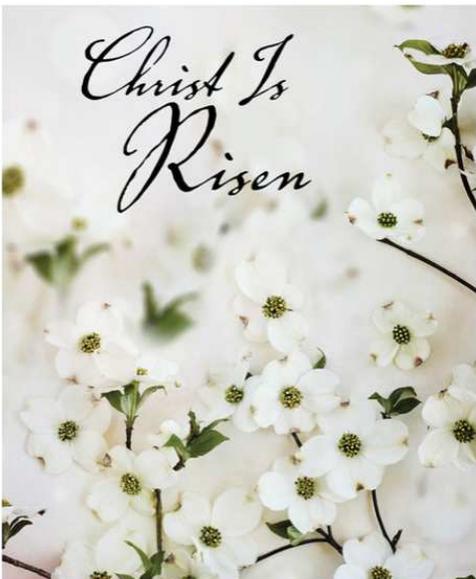
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Legend of the Dogwood



At the time of the crucifixion, the dogwood had reached the size of the mighty oak tree. So strong and firm was the wood that it was chosen as the timber for Jesus' cross.

To be used for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the dogwood. While nailed upon it, Jesus sensed this, and in his compassion said, "Because of your pity for my suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a cross. Henceforth, it shall be slender, bent, and twisted, and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross—two long and two short petals.

"In the center of the outer edge of each petal will be the print of nails. In the center of the flower, stained with blood, will be a crown of thorns so that all who see it will remember."

- Author Unknown

Pictured above is the bulletin cover featuring beautiful dogwood blossoms that has been chosen for our Easter worship service.