



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

FEBRUARY 20, 2017

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"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people..." – 1 Peter 2:9

The Priesthood of All Believers

Dear Friend,

This year is the 500th anniversary of the start of the Reformation. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95th theses to the door of the Wittenberg Church in Germany. In my newsletter letter each month this year, I will write about an important teaching of Martin Luther. Last month I wrote about his teaching that we are saved by grace through faith and not by our works. This month I am going to write about his teaching of the priesthood of all believers.

A priest is a person who is a mediator between God and people. In the Old Testament we frequently hear of priests serving at the temple in Jerusalem. The people would come to the priests and offer their sacrifices, praise, and prayers. The priests then, on behalf of the people, would offer these sacrifices, praise, and prayers to God. And also the priests would speak to the people what they believed God wanted the people to hear. So a priest was really a "go-between" person between God and the people.

The church of Luther's day had a rather Old Testament understanding of the priesthood. If you wanted to pray or worship God, you needed to do that through the local priest. And if you wanted to hear what God had to say to you, you had to listen to your local priest. Luther taught that rather than just a few selected people being priests, all Christians are really priests. The "priesthood of all believers" means exactly that – all believers are priests. Each of us can go directly to God with our prayers and worship. Each of us can also hear God speak directly to us through the Bible. We do not need to relate to God through the aid of another person.

Luther based this teaching on such Bible verses as: "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people..." (1 Peter 2:9). Luther once wrote "Through baptism we have all been ordained as priests" (Luther's Works 6, page 407) and also "...he (God) has crowned, ordained, and anointed us all with the Holy Spirit so that all of us together are priests in Christ, exercise a priestly office, come before God and intercede for one another" (Luther's Works 10, page 309).

Each of us being a priest means that we can worship and pray to God directly without going through a third person. Each of us being a priest also includes the responsibility of praying for other people in need. This is what Luther meant by his teaching of the "priesthood of all believers."

Your Friend in Christ

Pastor Wayne

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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Traditional Worship Coordinator
Director of Contemporary Worship
Organists/Pianists

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| Connie Hanson | |
| Nancy Hayes | |



BIRTH Tess Olivia was born January 13 to Kate and Drew Michels. Amelia is loving her new big sister role. Kelly Clason is Tess' grandmother, and great-grandparents are Don and Pat Clason.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT—Todd Claxton*, Lillie Kossman*, Alex Cole, Dorcy Kleine, Brian Lee, Edie Payleitner, Jippy Diab, Karrie Dickerson

CONTINUING—Beth Gosnell*, Mary Jane Fraley*, Jean Hanson*, Frank Vidmar*, Carol Kimmey*, Mick Kimmey*, Ron Cunz*, Shelly Claxton*, Steve Guyer*, Ben Burkett*, Irene Klotz*, Happy Bingham*, Ione Bennett*, Laura Allen*, Jackie Cline*, Robert Abbey, Jr.*, and June Gorecki*, Thomas Merkel, Walt Droppa, Dan Schwerdtmann, Tanya Kimmey, Betsy Shufelt, Tom Wysoglad, Joe Petit, and Mike Guzzardo

MILITARY—All people serving in the military, especially: Joseph Kimmey*, Ross Magee, Brandon Jakubiec and Forrest Grivetti

*Indicates Salem Member

PLEASE HELP US KEEP THIS PRAYER LIST UP-TO-DATE.



FEBRUARY, 2017 MEMORY VERSE:

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.”

- Romans 8:28

MARCH, 2017 MEMORY VERSE:

“If God is for us, who is against us?”

- Romans 8:31



I'm sorry this has taken so long. I'm not very good at this...but I do want to say "Thank You" to all of you for the truly lovely retirement send off and for the very generous retirement gift. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed working with you all these past 10 years. Thank you for all you did and do for me. I am so blessed to belong to such a loving church family.

God's Peace - Shelly Claxton

Shelly is shown at the left with Pastor Wayne at her retirement celebration last month.



Members of the Worship Committee will host a pancake breakfast for the congregation at 8:00 am next Sunday, February 26. Pancakes have often been associated with Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins. This year Shrove Tuesday happens to fall on the day of the next Community Fellowship Feast, so we'll celebrate a few days early. Please join us before worship next Sunday in the fellowship hall for pancakes!

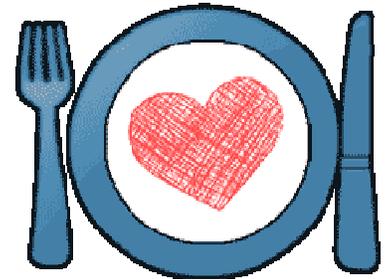
COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP FEAST

Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 4:30—6:00 pm
Somonauk Baptist Church
315 East North Street, Somonauk

All are welcome to enjoy the food & fellowship at this FREE event.
Salem will be providing casseroles.

Please sign up in the narthex if you can help in this way.

Next feast: March 28 at Union Congregational, Somonauk



WOMEN'S RETREAT AT LOMC—APRIL 21 & 22, 2017

LIFE LINE SCREENING AT SALEM—APRIL 24

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP FEAST AT SALEM—APRIL 25



FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The February 14th council meeting opened with devotions and prayer. Pastor Wayne gave his report. The minutes of the previous council meeting, a special council meeting, and the annual meeting were all approved.

The council: 1) designated special offerings as follows: a) Lenten suppers to Our Sharing Pantry, b) midweek Lenten envelopes to E.L.C.A. Benevolence (Mission Support), and c) Easter envelopes to Salem's General Fund; 2) approved the auditing committee's recommendations to cancel all credit cards and to audit our finances twice a year; 3) approved the property committee's recommendation to have Just In Time install new boilers when needed at a cost not to exceed \$34,000; 4) decided to move council meetings to the first Tuesday of each month, 5) decided to move \$1000 from the Funeral Lunch Designated Fund to our General Fund to make a partial payment for a loan from our Capital Fund; 6) discussed the new constitution committee; and 7) discussed attending the upcoming Congregational Resourcing Event (C.R.E).

The calendar and worship attendance were reviewed. Reports from committees were given.

The financial report was approved. For last month, the General Fund had an income of \$18,488 and expenses of \$16,614 and the Capital Fund had an income of \$5,530 and expenses of \$6,191. The meeting was adjourned.

MORE CONGREGATION LEADERS FOR 2017

At the Annual Congregational Meeting held on January 29 the following people were elected: 2017 Nominating Committee—Shelly Claxton, Alan Deaton and Walter Farley

Synod Assembly Delegates—Sharon Adkins and Walter Farley

Members of the Endowment and Memorial Funds Board—Laura Caupert and Marlene Kee

We are grateful for all who serve in these leadership roles.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

At their organizational retreat on January 28, the Congregation Council assigned committee responsibilities as follows:

WORSHIP—SHARON ADKINS

STEWARDSHIP—KELLY CLASON AND JERRY DAVIS

OUTREACH—JANICE DUNN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—BONNIE GUYER

PROPERTY—STEVE GUYER AND BRENT PEARSON

FINANCE—SCOTT KOSSMAN

MEMBER SUPPORT—PAM PESCIPELLI

FELLOWSHIP—MARILYN WOU DA

MISSION—SHARON ADKINS

Persons who are interested in serving on any of the above committees or who have comments or concerns about their specific areas of ministry should contact the appropriate council members. Anyone is welcome to attend any committee meeting. Scheduled committee meetings are listed on every monthly calendar

NEW BOILERS NEEDED

After sixty years of good service, our original boiler is failing. For several years we have been aware that this was going to happen sooner or later. The old boiler still works but leaks several gallons of water each day. This is an indication that it is nearing the end of its life. The boiler heats the church sanctuary, fellowship hall, and the education wing.

At the annual meeting in January our congregation approved authorizing our council to have a new boiler installed. Our council recently approved the property committee's recommendation to have Just In Time install new boilers when needed at a cost not to exceed \$34,000. There will actually be two smaller boilers to replace the old larger boiler. These new boilers will be much more energy efficient and should save us a lot of money on our future heating bills.

Because several of our members have already made donations for this cause, we need to raise about \$28,000 more to pay for the new boilers. You should have received a letter about this fund drive.

It will take about six days to do the installation work. This would cause some problems if this work would have to be done in cold weather. We are hoping that the old boiler will last until spring and the new boilers can be installed then. But we have to be prepared to install them sooner just in case the old boiler would suddenly fail.

Please prayerfully consider what you might give to help pay for the new boilers. Checks can be made out to "Salem Lutheran Church" and designated for the "Boiler Fund" Thanks to those of you who have already contributed for this.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD 2017 CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCING EVENT

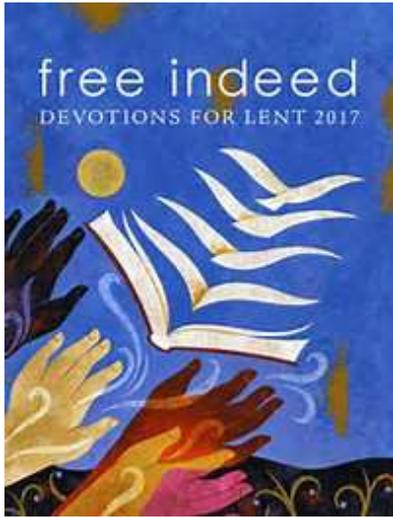
Saturday, March 11, 2017, 8:30 AM—3:15 PM

at Kishwaukee Community College, Malta, IL 60150

The Northern Illinois Synod Congregational Resourcing Event is open to each and every member of the congregation. Everyone attending may choose to attend three of the workshops offered throughout the day. These workshops cover a broad spectrum of topics concerning all areas of ministry. Brochures with full details and registration information are available in the narthex. If you have questions or would like more information, please ask in the church office.

LWR MISSION ROAD TRIP

Think Spring, and consider joining in a mission/road trip sponsored by First Lutheran, DeKalb, on behalf of Lutheran World Relief. Area Lutherans will be spending April 22-29, 2017, traveling to New Windsor, Maryland, to spend several days working at the LWR warehouse. The work includes inspecting and repacking LWR donated quilts and kits for overseas shipment. Time is also spent at the LWR national offices in Baltimore, helping one day at the SERRV International warehouse to inspect and repack third world artists' creations for sale in this country, sightseeing Baltimore and Gettysburg, and enjoying the faith fellowship of journeying together. If you are interested, pick up a brochure in the narthex, and call Pastor Dennis and Bev Heaney (815-748-7124) to reserve your spot. Registration is limited to 16, so call soon.



LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES
(based on Luther's Small Catechism)

Soup Suppers beginning at 6:00 pm
Worship beginning at 7:00 pm

March 8 - Supper hosted by Fellowship Committee
Topic: 10 Commandments

March 15—Supper hosted by Worship Committee
Topic: Apostles' Creed

March 22—Supper hosted by Ruth Unit
Topic: Lord's Prayer

March 29—Supper hosted by Christian Education Committee
Topic: Baptism

April 5—Supper hosted by Methuselahs
Topic: Communion

Supper offerings will benefit Our Sharing Pantry.
Lenten envelope offering will benefit ELCA Benevolence.

Community Lenten Breakfast Series

Federated Church—403 North Main Street, Sandwich

Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am

Spiritual Stations of the Cross

- March 1 First Station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
(Matthew 26:36-46) Pastor Joe McDonald of Emmanuel Church
- March 8 Second Station: Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, Is Arrested
(Mark 14: 43-52) Pastor Anne Hoflen of Somonauk United Presbyterian Church
- March 15: Third Station: Jesus Condemned by the Sanhedrin
(Luke 22: 66-71) Mr. Chuck Johnson
- March 22 Fourth Station: Jesus Is Denied by Peter
(Matthew 26:69-75) Pastor Wayne Derber, Salem Lutheran Church
- March 29 Fifth Station: Jesus Is Judged by Pilate
(Mark 15:1-15) Pastor Steven Mindrup of United Church of Sandwich
- April 5 Fourteenth Station: Jesus Is Placed in the Tomb
(Matthew 27:57-60) Pastor David Johnson of Somonauk Baptist Church

Please join us for a continental breakfast, fellowship, worship, prayer and study.
Everyone in the community is invited and encouraged to attend.
A free will offering will be taken.



THANKS to everyone who helped in any way to make our **Tenth Annual Cabaret** on February 11th a rousing success:

- ◆ Party of 3 (Steve Pescitelli, Alan Deaton, Leigh Kossman, Bill Fritsch, Brian Beer & Lillie Kossman) and guest artist, John Pescitelli;
- ◆ Scott Kossman for his emcee talents;
- ◆ Fox Valley Older Adults for the use of their facility;
- ◆ All who provided the delicious array of hors d'oeuvres and sweets;
- ◆ Our guests for their presence and for so generously supporting the silent auction & raffles;
- ◆ All of the adults and youth who put in many hours planning, setting up, decorating and serving;
- ◆ And finally, the many, many local merchants and Salem members who donated silent auction items and door prize items.

The 10th Annual Cabaret was not just an enjoyable evening, but a very profitable one as well. Proceeds from ticket sales, donations and 50/50 raffles totaled \$2441 for Salem's General Fund. The silent auction netted \$1,895 for the Servant Events Fund.

CPR CLASS—Salem will host a FREE Friends & Family CPR Class presented by the Community Health Network of the Kish Health System on Tuesday, March 7, 6-8:30 pm. Join us to learn how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED). This is not a certification class. Registration is required. Call Heidi Carlson at 815-786-3782

BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE—Salem's Sunday School invites you to join them for Bowl for Kids' Sake on Sunday, March 12, 12:00 noon at Idle Hour Lanes in Sandwich. Bowlers and sponsors are welcome. Please watch for sign-up sheets on Sunday mornings.

3N1 ACTIVITIES—The 3N1 youth group will be attending Winterjam on March 10 and Dare-to-Share in St. Louis March 17-19. For more information please contact Scott or Leigh Kossman at 815-286-3026.

FOODS RESOURCE BANK will hold a regional meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church, Somonauk on Saturday, March 18, 10:00 am—2:00 pm. All interested persons are welcome to attend.



**Volunteer at Northern Illinois Food Bank
Tuesday, March 27, 9 am-noon.**

Volunteers will meet at Salem at 8:00 am to carpool and will stop for lunch on the way home. We have scheduled the March shift during school spring break so that our youth ages 8 & over are able to participate. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to join us in March. See Walt Farley if you have questions.

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
1022 North Main Street P.O. Box 105
Sandwich IL 60548



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Two Services of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
1:00 & 7:00 PM