



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

## The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 7, 2023

VOL. 50, NO. 8

*From Pastor Steve . . . .*

### **The duty of self examination**

*This article first appeared in our newsletter about a year ago. A few folks told me that they found it helpful. I think it bears repeating.*

Self-examination ought to be a part of every serious disciple's spiritual life. A vigorous inventory of one's behavior is necessary for those who would maintain a right relationship to God.

Our traditional liturgy most always includes a prayer of confession and a time for examination of conscience. Despite our accomplishments and victories, at our core we know that we remain forgiven sinners. Saved by grace alone.

Here is a model for examination of conscience from the 18<sup>th</sup> century English reformer John Wesley. It points the way to a more rigorous and passionate style of Christian witness.

What would happen if you made these 22 questions a regular part of your devotional life? Could such a practice become an invitation to let God's grace move you to a greater consciousness of his presence in your life and a more serious commitment to Jesus' way of holy living? Ponder and see:

1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
3. Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
4. Can I be trusted?
5. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
6. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
7. Did the Bible live in me today?
8. Do I give it time to speak to me every day?
9. Am I enjoying prayer?
10. When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
11. Do I pray about the money I spend?
12. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
13. Do I disobey God in anything?
14. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?

- Continued on Page 3

# Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Serving Christ!*

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## Interim Pastor

Reverend Steven Mindrup

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Email: [pastormindrup@gmail.com](mailto:pastormindrup@gmail.com)

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary, Etc.

Bookkeeper

Traditional Worship Coordinator

Director of Contemporary Worship

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Maintenance

## Staff

Michele Farley

Gina Carlson

Karen Wesson

Nancy Rex

Libby Welsch

Gloria Gilbertson

Connie Hanson

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**Staff Office Hours: Tues.—Thurs., 9am—2pm; Fri, 9am-noon**

## *In our church family. . .*

*Dale and Ruth White will be celebrating 65 years of marriage on August 31. We rejoice with them on this joyous occasion. The Whites celebrated recently with their children Judy, Debbie and Mark and their spouses, with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. There are pictures from that celebration on the bulletin board. Congratulations, Dale and Ruth. You are truly an inspiration.*



### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:**

**CURRENT**—Pat Clason\*, Jason Boczko\*, Matthew Kee\*, Betty Pescitelli, Theresa McCann (Kelley Mindrup's sister)

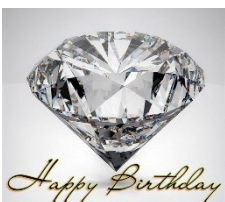
**CONTINUING**— Ben Burkett\*, Jane Burkett\*, Laura Caupert\*, Jackie Cline\*, Ruth Erickson\*, Tom Glover\*, Steve Guyer\*, Jean Hanson\*, Shirley Hines\*, Mick Kimmey\*, LaVerne Mattson\*, Baby Henry Ryan-Melchor, Marci Blue-stone, Jerry Burd, Darwin Classon, Debi Clausen, Darlene Comiskey, Julie Cook, Rayden Davis, Alex Diab, Shandol Dulin, Bobby E., Brad Engle, Scott Evans, Sally Ferko, Kate Gage, Jo Gehlbach, Mary Gliszczynski, Mike Guzzardo, Ava Hawbaker, Sylvia and Cesar Hurtago, Dan Jackson, Wanda Jirsa, Steven Johnson, Jacob Kenyon, Tanya Kimmey, Art Kossmann, Jim Martin, Colleen McMahon, Sam Meier, Nick Morgan, Arlene Nieman, Deanne Novicki, Carol Peisker, Joe Petit, Martha Poggi, Brian Porter, Laurie Jacobson Rappa, Alphonse Somé, Erin Stiver, Joanne Sumner, Leslie Trettenero, John Wilson, Pearl Undesser, Carol Wilhelm, Tom Wysoglad, and Bridget Yaeger

**MILITARY**—All people serving in the military, especially: Kaden Brennan, Danny Cassidy, Charlie Golowacz, Nathan Hunt, Brandon Jakubiec, Shawn Jakubiec, Joseph Kimmey, Ross Magee, Garrett O'Dell, Jared Usey, and Kevin Zaleski



**\*Indicates Salem member.**

**Please help us keep this list up to date by checking on any persons you may have referred.**



### **DIAMOND PLUS (75th +) BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST:**

8/7 Jean Hanson & Donna Kimmey

8/13 Linda Benson

8/18 Tom Glover

8/27 Ron Gengler

## AUGUST 1, 2023 SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. Nine council members attended this meeting. Pastor Steve Mindrup was on vacation. Following devotions provided by Walter Farley, minutes of the July 5, 2023, Salem Congregation Council meeting as prepared by Secretary Jacqueline Beverage were accepted.

Council members studied the financial reports for June 2023. Treasurer Bonnie Guyer reported that all bills are paid to date and reported balances as of August 1, 2023, for the following accounts.

General Fund: \$ 9205.34

Designated Fund: \$28,433.39

Capital Fund: \$49,833.72

The treasurer's report as presented by Treasurer Bonnie Guyer was accepted.

Council representatives to Salem's committees reported. The Christian Education Committee report noted work on plans for the upcoming fall season. The Finance Committee report noted that a mortgage payment in addition to the regular monthly mortgage payment was made. The Mission Committee report noted work on continuing projects such as quilts, Northern Illinois Food Bank, etc. The Property Committee report noted that the blacktop project is complete and the bill has been paid. The Worship Committee report noted that there will be an opportunity for Picnic And Worship Service (PAWS) on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, starting at 6:30 p.m.

### The duty of self examination (continued from Page 1)

15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?

16. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?

17. How do I spend my spare time?

18. Am I proud?

19. Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?

20. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold resentment toward or disregard?

If so, what am I doing about it?

21. Do I grumble or complain constantly?

22. Is Christ real to me?

- Steve Mindrup

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE



**AUGUST: THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT:** You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?** We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.

# AUGUST Adventures

**AUGUST 13: BACK to SCHOOL SUNDAY**



**SUNDAY AUGUST 13  
10:00 AM**

**Join Salem's  
Worship Committee  
for Ice Cream Sundaes  
during  
Coffee Fellowship Time.**



**AUGUST 13:  
WATER GAMES  
FOR KIDS AND  
"KIDS AT HEART"  
ON SALEM'S  
SOUTH LAWN  
AFTER THE ICE CREAM**

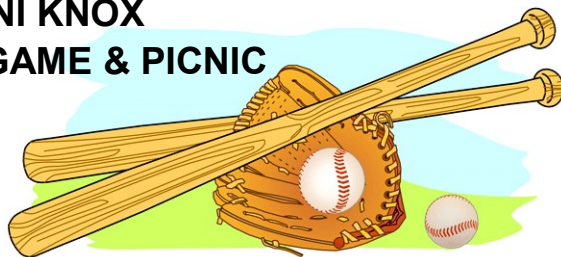
**ANNUAL JONI KNOX  
SOFTBALL GAME & PICNIC**

**SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 20  
3 PM GAME**

**PICNIC TO FOLLOW  
SANNAUK FOREST PRESERVE**

Spectators as well as players are welcome.

Bring a dish to share and your drinks and table service. The Fellowship Committee will provide meat. Please sign-up if you plan to participate.



**Adopt a Road  
PROGRAM**

Salem's next road walk to pick up trash along our assigned stretch of West Sandwich Road is set for Saturday, August 19. We will meet at Prairie View School parking lot at 8:00 am. The walk usually takes approximately one hour. Safety vests and bags are provided. Please be sure to wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots. All walkers are welcome.



Our August volunteer shift is set for Tuesday, August 15, 9:00-11:30 am. The registration for this shift is closed. The next volunteer opportunity will be September 19. A sign-up sheet for September will be in the narthex later in August.

## **BYOP, BYOC, for PAWS**

### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?**

**Bring Your Own Picnic . . . Bring Your Own Chair for Picnic And Worship Service**  
**Wednesday, August 16—Salem's picnic table area—6:30 pm**

The first PAWS received good comments from people that attended. There will be a second opportunity to gather with Salem friends for a picnic in Salem's picnic area on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, starting at 6:30 pm followed by a brief worship time. This will provide an additional time for worship during the busy summer season.

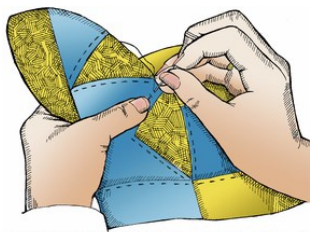


The August Lunch Bunch group will meet at **Craft'd**, 2075 Marketview Drive, Yorkville (in the same area as Menards) on Thursday, August 17. Meet at church at 11:00 am to carpool or at the restaurant at 11:30 am. Call Donna Fraley (815-263-7227) if you need a ride. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend.



### **RUTH UNIT SUMMER LUNCHEON**

Members of Salem's Ruth Unit invite all ladies to join them at their summer lunch get-together. This is set for Wednesday, August 23, 11:30 am, at Star 34 Restaurant, 336 West Church Street, Sandwich. Please call Ruth (815-786-2674) or Joanne (815-786-2864) if you plan to attend or if you need a ride.



### **QUILTING GROUP**

anyone who prefers to work at home. Recently Cheryl Carls delivered 65 completed quilts and 27 personal care kits to the distribution center in Elgin.

We are grateful to all who have worked on the quilts and all who have donated materials and other supplies. We are also extremely grateful to the quilters at First Lutheran Church in DeKalb who shared with us about 100 yards of fabric that had been donated to them.

Some of the quilters are also sewing cloth bags for our LWR School Kits. Please check with Cheryl if you would like to help with this project.



### PLEASE HELP OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

collect items for Lutheran World Relief School kits. Our collection will run through mid-September. Your donations may be placed in the box in the narthex or the box in the vestibule at the office entrance.

While there are groups and organizations that provide similar kits for local children in need, this project focuses on global needs. These kits are meant for children who have been forced to leave their homes in Ukraine and in Syria and children who live in poverty areas in Africa and South America.

#### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH SCHOOL KIT

- FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE** pencil sharpener
- ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE** 2 1/2" eraser

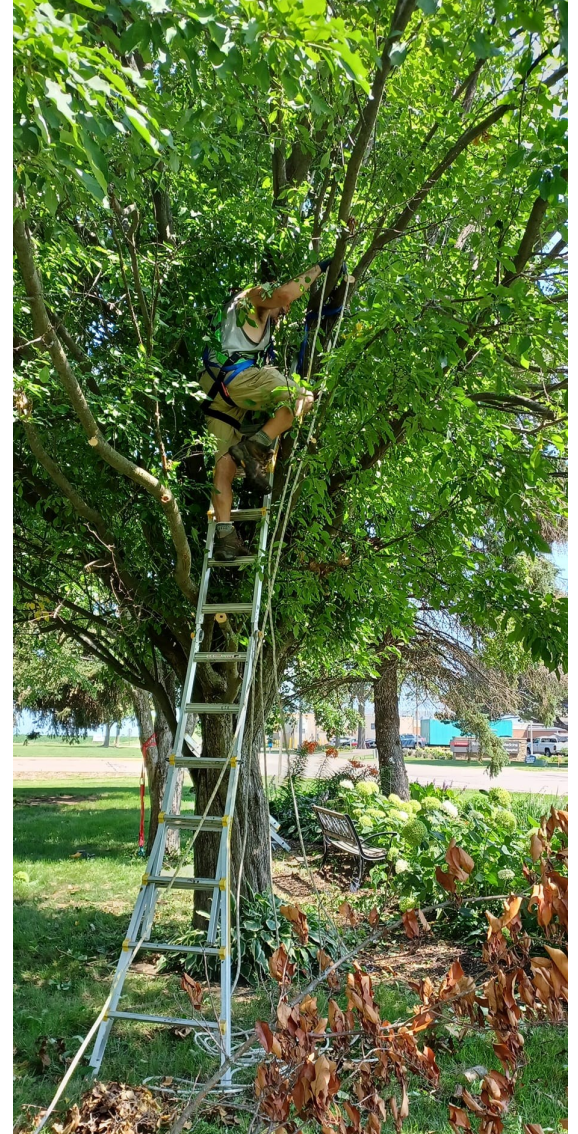
The needs are quite specific. Please note the instruction below.

- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

If you are able, please try to donate the items for a complete kit rather than multiples of one or two items only. This will help us to ensure an even collection of the needed items. **THANK YOU!**



These folks gave of their time on Saturday, July 22 to spend a good part of the day helping to clean, trim trees and beautify Salem's property under the leadership of Dean Lundeen: Dean Burau, Ron Cunz, Alan Deaton, Jan Dunn, Patty Farley, Steve & Bonnie Guyer, Durk Hellinga, and George Webster. Many of those same folks care for Salem grounds on a weekly basis.



### **OUR CHURCH GROUNDS ARE LOOKING BEAUTIFUL!**

On August 3 many of them were back to spread mulch in the bed in front of the office wing, Thanks to Steve and Pam Pescitelli and Marilyn Wouda for joining them. Three yards of mulch were spread in record time. "Many hands make light work!"



The Wednesday morning Methuselah Coffee Fellowship is enjoying Salem's newly resurfaced parking lot. The work was done during the week of July 24th thanks to the generosity of all who supported *Building on a Legacy of Faith* giving campaign for Salem renovations this past spring. Thanks to Dean Lundeen and Salem's Property Committee for their work in arranging the parking lot improvement project.



This is Salem's group enjoying their outing to the Kane County Cougar baseball game on July 14. Thanks to Marilyn Wouda for arranging this. To show their appreciation for our continued support of their organization, the Cougars are making the following offer:

Visit [kccougars.com](http://kccougars.com), click on "Buy Tickets" and enter promo code **THANKYOU** for \$5 Reserved seats from today until the end of the regular season on September 4th! There is a limit of 10 tickets per customer, per game.



## “FAIR SUNDAY” - SEPTEMBER 10— WORSHIP SCHEDULE



- ◆ 8:30 am Ecumenical Worship Service on the Home Arts Stage at the Sandwich Fairgrounds—Pastor Hope Johnson of Bethany Lutheran Church in Leland is in charge, and Redhorse will provide music.
- ◆ There will be NO 9:00 am worship service at Salem.
- ◆ 10:30 am—Traditional Worship Service at Salem



### JULY NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK CREW—

728 5-pound bags or 3,640 pounds of oranges were sorted, weighed and packed.



July LUNCH BUNCH at Star 34 Restaurant.

*Thank You, Fred & Nancy Hayes,  
for hosting Salem Sunday School & Friends Annual Farm Visit*

