



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

FEBRUARY 10, 2023

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From Pastor Steve

Recognizing Black History Month

The following is a perspective on Martin Luther King that I wrote for Black History Month some years ago.

Recent events in our nation have sadly shown that issues of racial justice must continue to be at the center of our moral and political agenda. The church – the people of God – must be a healing and hopeful contributor to that conversation.

August 28, 1963: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. leads The March on Washington for racial justice and equality.

I was sixteen years old. I lived on the south side of Chicago and attended a multi-racial high school. I was used to interacting with African-Americans, but I didn't have any black friends, and I harbored some typical south side white kid racial attitudes (though I don't like to admit it, even now).

Seeing the March on Washington on television began a change of mind and heart for me. Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech was the most affecting piece of oratory that I had ever heard. That speech, and the rest of the huge body of work that he produced before his tragic murder, have a moral clarity and a persuasive power that I have never seen equaled.

The March, and the social and political fallout from it, made me examine my own racism and see the prejudice and discrimination that was all around me. I began to see the quiet ways that my own parents dealt with bigotry: My father practically shoved a realtor off our porch after he offered to list our house before "they" moved into the neighborhood. My mother brought over a pie to the first black family to move on our block – a family which incidentally ended up joining my parents' church.

If I have become any sort of advocate for justice, the events of that day over fifty years ago were formative. The sight of 200,000 ordinary Americans of all colors coming together to fight racism still inspires today.

Of course the civil rights movement was far from perfect. Dr. King had his own personal demons and moral lapses. After his death in 1968, there were those who attempted to impose Marxist ideology and violent strategies on what had largely been a spiritual and nonviolent movement.

Nonetheless, Martin Luther King Jr. remains, for me, one of the greatest Americans of my lifetime. The movement he represented remains one of the finest hours in our history—a living example of the 19th century metaphor he was fond of quoting: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

- Steve Mindrup

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Maintenance

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Gina Carlson

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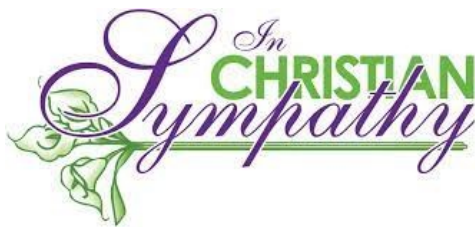
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In our church family. . .



We were deeply saddened to receive news of the passing of long-time Salem member, **LuAnn Ladwig**. LuAnn died on January 31 in Denver CO where she had resided since 2014. Our most sincere sympathy to Arnold and their daughters Jamie and Bonnie and their families. Please keep them in your prayers. Arnold's address is:

231 Meade St, Denver CO 80221.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT—Laura Caupert*, Janet Klotz*, Ann Snider, Art Kossman, Wanda Jirsa, Sam Meier, David Stahl Sr., and the Family and Friends of Cheryl Korth

CONTINUING— Eileen Negley*, Jane Burkett*, Carolyn Wyant*, Tom Glover*, Lila Mattson*, Shirley Hines*, Pat Clason*, Ruth Erickson*, Steve Guyer*, Ben Burkett*, Jackie Cline*, Mick Kimmey*, Muriel Scott, Dan Jackson, William Lein, Augie Frietsch, Debi Clausen, Grace Pearson, Jim Kee, Darwin Classon, Mike Clayton, Mary Gliszczynski, Martha Poggi, Jeanne McNish, Sylvia and Cesar Hurtago, Max Garland, Larry Peppers, Laverne Schober, Linda McVicker, 7-year-old **Tinley**, Kate Gage, Marci Bluestone, Bridget Yaeger, Ava Hawbaker, Tyler Mall, Jim Martin, Nick Morgan, Sarah Flanigan, Scott Evans, Joanne Sumner, Suzi Diab, Sally Ferko, Jacob Kenyon, Steven Johnson, Bobby E., Brian DeFalco, Brian Porter, Wesley Calkins, Brad Engle, Colleen McMahan, Pearl Undesser, Jeff Shulkin, Julie Cook, Carol Peisker, Darlene Comiskey, Breanna Mann, Erin Stiver, Jerry Burd, Carol Wilhelm, James McMahan, Shandol Dulin, Tanya Kimmey, Tom Wysoglad, Joe Petit, Mike Guzzardo, Mandy W. & children

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.

FEBRUARY 2023 SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. Council members Alan Deaton, Patricia Farley, Walter Farley, Donna Fraley, Bonnie Guyer, Durk Hellinga, Dean Lundeen, Pastor Steve Mindrup, and Nancy Rex attended this meeting.

Following devotions provided by Walter Farley, minutes of the January 3, 2023, Congregation Council meeting as prepared by Secretary Alan Deaton were accepted, and minutes of the January 29, 2023, Annual Meeting of Salem Congregation as prepared by Secretary Jacqueline Beverage were accepted.

Council members studied the financial reports for December 2022. Treasurer Bonnie Guyer reported that all bills are currently paid and reported balances in the following accounts as of February 7, 2023.

General Fund: \$16,203.89, Designated Fund: \$27,584.68, Capital Fund: \$32,736.75

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

Monthly reports were presented by Pastor Steve Mindrup and representatives of Salem's committees.

Ron Cunz, Donna Fraley and Sandra Martens volunteered to serve second terms of three years each on Salem's Memorial and Endowment Fund Board. These volunteers were accepted as Memorial and Endowment Fund Board Members.

Salem Council members agreed to participate in providing breakfast on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at the Federated Church of Sandwich and to clean up after breakfast. Salem's Worship Committee agreed to organize Salem's participation in this breakfast.

Council members designated Lenten Soup Supper offerings for Northern Illinois Food Bank, Lenten envelope offerings for Salem's benevolence commitment, Easter envelope offerings for Salem's General Fund, and offerings collected at the Lenten Breakfast for Our Sharing Pantry.

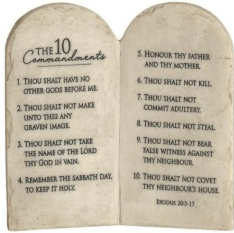
Committee representatives volunteered for providing soup suppers beginning at 6:00 p.m. before Wednesday Lenten Midweek worship services on March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2023.

2023 SALEM CONGREGATION OFFICERS

President: Dean Lundeen
Vice President: Walter Farley
Secretary: Jacqueline Beverage
Treasurer: Bonnie Guyer

2023 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES FOR SALEM COMMITTEES

Christian Education Committee: Bonnie Guyer
Fellowship Committee: Durk Hellinga
Finance Committee: Bonnie Guyer and Dean Lundeen
Member Support Committee: Donna Fraley
Mission Committee: Patricia Farley and Walter Farley
Outreach Committee: Jacqueline Beverage
Property Committee: Walter Farley and Dean Lundeen
Stewardship Committee: Donna Fraley
Worship Committee: Nancy Rex and Walter Farley
Memorial and Endowment Fund Board: Donna Fraley



MONTHLY MEMORY VERSES—During 2023, Salem’s memory verses for the year begin with a review of the Ten Commandments and Martin Luther’s brief explanations of them. For an overview, read Exodus 20.

FEBRUARY—THE SECOND COMMANDMENT: You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? We are to fear and love God, so that we do not curse, swear, practice magic, lie, or deceive using God’s name, but instead use that very name in every time of need to call on, pray to, praise, and give thanks to God.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES:

Thanks to all who were present to constitute a quorum for Salem’s Annual Congregational Meeting on January 29. The following business was conducted:

- Resolutions were read and approved.
- The Audit Committee reported on a clean audit.
- The Bulletin of Reports was adopted—extra copies of the report are still available in the narthex for anyone who has not received theirs.
- Jan Dunn, Sandra Martens and Marilyn Wouda were elected to the Nominating Committee for 2023.
- Durk Hellinga, Sharon Wallis, and Marilyn Wouda were elected as Salem’s delegates to the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly.
- We heard and viewed presentations on needed improvements to Salem’s building and grounds. Further details on this will be forthcoming.

SUMMER CAMP—During 2022 Salem’s Finance Committee adopted a policy of helping Salem’s young people attend a church-based summer camp of their choice. Funds are available for “camperships” through Salem’s Servant Events funds. Two ELCA supported camps are Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, IL and Lutherdale in Elkhorn, WI. Check their websites (lomc.org and lutherdale.org) for more information. If there is a young person in your family who would benefit from this experience, please inquire about assistance in the church office or any member of the Finance Committee.



INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20” x 40” and 52” x 27”), dark color recommended
- TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it’s original packaging*
- ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

Salem’s Sunday School and Christian Education Committee will sponsor the collection of the items listed above for Lutheran World Relief **PERSONAL CARE KITS**. These kits are essential in areas such as those affected by the recent earthquakes. Please consider helping! There will be containers in the narthex all during Lent to receive your donations. If you can provide all of the items that make up a single kit, that would be great.

The Season of Lent, 2023—Salem Lutheran Church

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES at Salem—1:00 pm and 7:00 pm
- ASH WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER BREAKFAST—Our friends at St. John's Lutheran Church in Somonauk have invited us to join them at 9:30 am.
- WATER & SPIRIT— Salem's Worship Committee has provided copies of this Augsburg Lenten devotional book. They will be available to all families beginning on Ash Wednesday.

LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES & SUPPERS—MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

- Worship Services are set for 7:00 pm. The theme of Pastor Mindrup's meditations will be: FROM THE NICENE CREED: "We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church."
- Supper will be served at 6:00 pm and will be hosted by:
 - March 1—Worship Committee
 - March 8—Fellowship Committee
 - March 15—Christian Education and Outreach Committees
 - March 22—Ruth Unit
 - March 29—Stewardship & Finance Committees

LENTEN BREAKFASTS AT FEDERATED CHURCH—March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

- Each week will be hosted by a different congregation which will be responsible for providing the food, servers, time of worship and preacher. Each preacher will do a mediation on a Psalm of his/her choosing. Assigned host congregations are:
 - March 1—Federated Church, Mr. Chuck Johnson
 - March 8—St. John's Lutheran Church, Rev. Chris Schoon
 - March 15—Union Congregational Church, Rev. Ted Englesdorfer
 - March 22—United Church of Sandwich, Rev. Tom Bourke
 - March 29—Salem Lutheran Church, Rev. Steve Mindrup

OFFERINGS—Salem's Congregation Council has designated offerings as follows:

Lenten Soup Supper offerings for Northern Illinois Food Bank,
Lenten envelope offerings for Salem's benevolence commitment,
Easter envelope offerings for Salem's General Fund,
Lenten Breakfast offering on March 29 for Our Sharing Pantry.

This Month at Salem

—**SUPER/SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY—FEB 12:** The soup kettle will be in place in the sanctuary to accept your extra donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring to benefit ELCA World Hunger. Don't forget an extra dollar—or two—or many!!! Checks should be written to Salem and noted WHA.

—SALEM QUILT GROUP

The February work days for Salem's Quilters will be Monday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 14 from 9:00 am to noon. They would welcome any willing workers to do a variety of tasks; -no experience is needed. There are also quilt top kits pre-cut and ready for anyone to pick up in the narthex and take home to sew together. Please speak to Patty Farley or Cheryl Carls if you have questions.

—NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

Registration has been submitted for our February 21st volunteer shift at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The next volunteer opportunity will be March 21st. NIFB requires registration two weeks in advance, so please sign up no later than March 7 if you plan to go in March. New volunteers are always welcome. The group meets in Salem's parking lot at 8:00 am to share rides as needed. The shift is from 9:00 to 11:30 am, and the group stops for lunch on the way home.

—LUNCH BUNCH

Salem's Lunch Bunch gathering for February will be on Thursday, February 16. The group will meet at The last Chance Saloon in Millington at 11:30 am. Please sign-up in the narthex to reserve your spot.

—**SHROVE TUESDAY (or the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday)** is marked in some cultures as a day to feast on PANCAKES! On Tuesday, February 21 the Worship Committee will host a Pancake Supper at 6:00 pm prior to their meeting. Everyone is invited to join them for a quick supper. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the narthex so the planners can be sure to have enough food on hand.



Save ^{the} Date

Women's Retreat

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center

April 14-15, 2023

Women who plan to attend are asked to reserve their spot now by letting the church office know. Cost ranging between \$84—\$104 will be determined by the number attending. If you have questions you may ask Sandy Martens, Kelly Clason or Sharon Wallis for more information.



WINTER WEATHER IS STILL UPON US: If you have concerns about cancellation of worship services or meetings, please check your email or tune in to WSPY 107.1 FM radio for cancellation announcements. The health and safety of our members is our primary concern; so please use your judgement about whether or not to venture out in severe weather.



Hesed House is a Comprehensive Homeless Resource Center for Counseling, Employment and Housing Assistance located in Aurora. It's mission is *"to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless and give people the chance to hope again."* Because of the generosity of the people of Salem Lutheran Church, we were able to assist in that mission by donating our 2022 Christmas offering to Hesed House. Nancy Rex is shown above presenting our check for \$1,929 to Hesed staff member Noemi Velazquez.



Above: Jan joined the kids for a rousing game of *Musical Chairs*.

Right: Alan was the *Big Winner* at *Yahtzee*.

Game Night

January 14

