



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

JULY 7, 2023

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From Pastor Steve

Rising above Circumstances

"Pastor, I'm worth nothing. I'm finished. If you're going to pray, just ask God to let me die."

Pete was the first member I visited in a church that I served long ago. He was mostly confined to his bed. His mobility was limited. Any energy that was left in his tired body faded quickly. "Welcome to my little world", he said the first time we met, gesturing at the room that had become the boundary of his life.

When Pete and I explored his life – what he had been and what he now was – we asked: What does it really mean to be alive? Can I embrace the world and live well even when I have given up so many things that have given me pleasure and meaning? Is my worth defined only by what I can do? Can I just be who I am and know that I am loved and valued?

One day Pete suddenly asked me, "Do you have a list of folks in our church who are in the same fix as me?" I said that of course I did. "Bring it to me," Pete replied. "I was a salesman. I can talk to anyone about anything. I may not be able to do much but I can dial the phone."

Thus began a journey of caring that lasted almost a year. Practically until the day he died, Pete made a point of calling other home bound church members every day. I began to hear from these others how they looked forward to his calls. A few weeks before he died, I asked him how he was coping with his failing health, he said, "I've given all that business to the great Healer of Men."

Open to God's grace and God's Spirit, Pete was able to transcend his circumstances and live fully and with dignity to the last. As we face the uncertainties of aging, I pray that all of us might have the same experience of transcendence and hope.

- Steve Mindrup

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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Financial Secretary, Etc.

Bookkeeper

Traditional Worship Coordinator

Director of Contemporary Worship

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

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In our church family. . .

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT—Matthew Kee*, Alphonse Somé, Laurie Jacobson Rappa

CONTINUING— Ben Burkett*, Jane Burkett*, Laura Caupert*, Pat Clason*, Jackie Cline*, Ruth Erickson*, Tom Glover*, Steve Guyer*, Jean Hanson*, Shirley Hines*, Mick Kimmey*, LaVerne Mattson*, Lila Mattson*, Baby Henry Ryan-Melchor, Marci Bluestone, 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 Kossman, Jim Martin, Colleen McMahan, Sam Meier, Nick Morgan, Arliene Nieman, Deanne Novicki, Carol Peisker, Joe Petit, Martha Poggi, Brian Porter, 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 JULY:

July 8—Mick Kimmey

July 25—Leonard Johnson



MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

JULY: THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT: You shall not steal.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? We are to fear and love God, so that we neither take our neighbors' money or property nor acquire them by using shoddy merchandise or crooked deals, but instead help them to improve and protect their property and income.

JULY 5, 2023 SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. All ten members of the council attended this meeting. Following devotions provided by Dean Lundeen, minutes of the June 6, 2023, Salem Congregation Council meeting as prepared by Secretary Jacqueline Beverage were accepted.

Council members studied the financial reports for May 2023. Treasurer Bonnie Guyer reported that all current bills are paid and reported balances as of July 5, 2023, for the following accounts.

General Fund: \$7929.86

Designated Fund: \$28,676.52

Capital Fund: \$56,862.69

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

Pastor Mindrup and council representatives on Salem's committees reported on completed, ongoing, and upcoming projects.

The schedule for council representatives to briefly highlight the work of Salem's committees during Welcome and Announcements time on Sunday mornings was completed through August 6, 2023.



Pastor Mindrup will be taking some well-deserved vacation time from July 17 through August 2. During his absence, Pastor Chris Schoon, St. John's in Somonauk, will be available in case of any pastoral emergencies. She can be reached at 815-768-7452. Staff will maintain office hours as usual. Pastor Dennis Heaney will be our guest preacher on Sundays, July 23 and July 30.

BYOP, BYOC, for PAWS

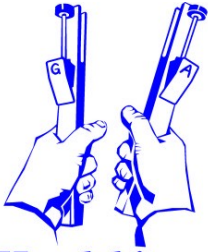
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Bring Your Own Picnic . . . Bring Your Own Chair for Picnic And Worship Service
Wednesday, July 12—Salem's picnic table area—6:30 pm

After listening to input from some members of our worshipping community, Salem's Worship Committee and Congregation Council decided by consensus not to have an outdoor worship service during the regular Sunday worship service time this summer.

Instead we decided to try something different. There will be an opportunity to gather with Salem friends for a picnic in Salem's picnic area on Wednesday, July 12, 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.

JULY Activities



Handchimes

Salem Handchime Ensemble will resume weekly rehearsals on Monday, July 10 at 6:00 pm. New chimers would be welcome. Feel free to just show up and check it out!



KANE COUNTY COUGARS BASEBALL GAME
FRIDAY, JULY 14—6:30 PM - \$8.00 PER TICKET
ADVANCE PURCHASE PARKING ALSO AVAILABLE
@ \$6 GENERAL OR \$10 PREMIUM
CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO SALEM.
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE—SIGN-UP NOW!

VISIT TO HAYES FAMILY FARM



All are invited to join our Sunday School families for their annual tour of the Hayes farm at 3272 State Rt. 23, Leland. We will be leaving from Salem right after Sunday morning worship.



The July Lunch Bunch group will meet at STAR 34 (336 West Church Street, Sandwich) on Thursday, July 20. Meet 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.



The Property Committee will hold a WORK DAY on Saturday, July 22, from 8:00 am—3:00 pm. Come and go as your schedule allows. The main tasks will be trimming trees and bushes. Please speak to Dean Lundeen if you have questions.

Our July volunteer shift is set for Tuesday, July 25, 9:00-11:30 am. Please note that this is a departure from our usual third Tuesday of the month. We have 20 reserved spots, and children age 8 and up are welcome. We must register by name by July 11, so please sign up ASAP. The next volunteer opportunity will be August 15 which is before the first day of school in Sandwich.



COMING SOON



AUGUST 13: BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

Sundaes on 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
3PM 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.



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.

June Lunch Bunch at Pokanoka's Dockside Restaurant at Lake Shabbona



JUNE NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS



Pictured above right: Jackie Beverage is shown presenting an NIFB Staff member with a check for \$1600 from her employer's charitable foundation, Amica Insurance Companies Foundation. By donating the required number of volunteer hours, Jackie was eligible to apply for a grant from her company. What a great gift to NIFB! All Salem members are encouraged to check to see whether their employers offer such programs.

Below: We welcomed the rain that forced the Worship Committee to move Sundaes on Sunday indoors on July 2. The ice cream was just as tasty!



Above: These gentlemen are ready to enjoy a delicious Father's Day Brunch of biscuits and gravy hosted by the Christian Education Committee.





Salem's Outreach and Christian Education Committees joined forces to create this float for the Sandwich 4th of July Parade. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....God saw all that was made and indeed it was very good."



THANK YOU! LaVerne and Kurt Mattson for the use of the tractor and hay rack. Kurt was also our driver.