



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

JUNE 9, 2023

VOL. 50, NO. 6

From Pastor Steve

In case you're counting ...

As of next month, Salem will have been without a full time called pastor for two years.

I arrived in July 2021 as pulpit supply, and was invited by the Council to serve as interim pastor beginning August 1, 2021.

As ventriloquist's dummy Mortimer Snerd famously said, "Whoda thunk it?" I never thought when I began that I would be with you this long. But it's been a joy to be your pastor. I have found deep faith at Salem, a strong commitment to serve Christ by serving your neighbors, and a lively worship practice which lifts up Word and Sacrament from week to week.

You all are aware that I have been dealing with some health challenges. Your patience with my limitations and your kindness are deeply appreciated. Thank you for making Kelley and me a part of your church family.

All that being said, your Call Committee continues to be hard at work seeking Salem's next pastor. The task of discernment is not easy. Be assured that they are being very intentional and diligent.

There are very competent people at the synod level who are working on helping us find a new pastoral leader. Be assured that the synod and the Call Committee are communicating regularly.

It has been a joy to serve you, but Salem needs a full time pastor to help move you into the future and develop a vision of what you can yet be. Be assured that God will provide. Meanwhile, I am and will continue to be – God willing – your pastor *pro tem*. All is for his glory.

- Steve Mindrup

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

1022 North Main Street—PO Box 105—Sandwich, IL 60548

Phone: 815-786-9308

Email: Salemlc@comcast.net

Web site: wearesalemlutheran.org

Interim Pastor

Reverend Steven Mindrup

Phone: 815-988-4992

Email: pastormindrup@gmail.com

Staff

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary, Etc.

Bookkeeper

Traditional Worship Coordinator

Director of Contemporary Worship

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Maintenance

Michele Farley

Gina Carlson

Karen Wesson

Nancy Rex

Libby Welsch

Gloria Gilbertson

Connie Hanson

Nancy Hayes

salem-mickey@comcast.net

salem-gina@comcast.net

salem-karen@comcast.net

salem-rex@comcast.net

salem-libby@comcast.net

In our church family. . .



CONGRATULATIONS to Martin and Paula Mueller who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.



The memorial service for Janet Klotz who passed away on March 9 will be held on Monday, June 12 at 11:00 am at Salem Lutheran Church. Luncheon will follow the service.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CONTINUING—LaVerne Mattson*, Jean Hanson*, Laura Caupert*, Jane Burkett*, Tom Glover*, Lila Mattson*, Shirley Hines*, Pat Clason*, Ruth Erickson*, Steve Guyer*, Ben Burkett*, Jackie Cline*, Mick Kimmey*, 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, 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 JUNE:

June 9—Bill Negley

June 23—Nancy Rex

June 11—Darlene Bastian

June 25—LaVerne Mattson

June 30—Pat Clason

June 19—Pat Whitten

June 27—Cindy Webster



*EmmaLee Renee Houser
affirmed her baptismal vows
through
the Rite of Confirmation
during the May 7th
worship service.
Please keep her in your
prayers as she continues
on her faith journey.*

JUNE 6, 2023 SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. Council members Jacqueline Beverage, Alan Deaton, Walter Farley, Donna Fraley, Bonnie Guyer, Durk Hellinga, Dean Lundeen, Pastor Steve Mindrup, and Nancy Rex attended this meeting. One council member was absent.

Following devotions provided by Durk Hellinga, minutes of the May 2, 2023, Salem Congregation Council meeting as prepared by Substitute Secretary Bonnie Guyer were accepted.

Council members studied the financial reports for April 2023. Treasurer Bonnie Guyer reported Salem is current with paying bills, and that no money has had to be transferred from one fund to another to pay bills. Treasurer Guyer reported balances as of June 6, 2023, in the following accounts:

General Fund: \$9807.14; Designated Fund: \$28,093.82; Capital Fund: \$56,794.08

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

Pastor Steve Mindrup reported about his work in May 2023 in the areas of Worship Ministry, Teaching, Continuing Education and Synod Business, Pastoral Care, and Community Issues.

Other committee members reported about completed and ongoing projects.

Donna Fraley reported about the work of the Memorial and Endowment Fund Board.

The July 2023 proposed calendar was reviewed noting additions and changes.

Salem's Call Committee has not met since the last congregation council meeting since no new information has been received from the Northern Illinois Synod.



MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

MAY: THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT: You shall not commit adultery.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? We are to fear and love God, so that we lead pure and decent lives in word and deed, and each of us loves and honors his or her spouse.



to our Graduates

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION ~

EMMA HOUSER—Sandwich Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL ~

CLAIRE ALLEN—Sandwich High School

GRACE O'REILLY—Oswego High School

Granddaughter of Stan & Linda Benson

JOEY SHAFER—Sandwich High School

Grandson of Doug & Donna Fraley

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ~

KAITLYNN BOCZKO—George Williams College; BS, Nursing

ALLISON GRAHAM— Northern Illinois University; BS, Physical Education

Granddaughter of Doug & Donna Fraley

(Dec.2022)

KATE STEFFENSEN MICHELS—Aurora University; MS, Social Work

JACOB MITCHELL—Waubonsee Community College; Associate, Fine Arts

STEPHANI PESCITELLI—United Seminary, St Paul MN; Master of Divinity

JACKSON SHAFER—Southern Illinois University; BS Automotive Technology

Grandson of Doug & Donna Fraley

***May God bless each of them as they move on
to the next chapters in their lives.***

God's work. Our hands.



It has been ten years since the ELCA adopted the “God’s work. Our hands.” motto. This is a great opportunity to say a well-deserved **THANK YOU** to some of the many Salem volunteers who are living out this motto on a regular basis.

THANK YOU...

Council & Committee Members

Worship Personnel—In addition to our faithful & talented staff members, we are blessed with the many who volunteer as musicians, worship leaders, assisting ministers, lectors/readers, ushers, acolytes, and communion bread providers.

Coffee Fellowship Hosts

Mowers—Ron Cunz, Bonnie & Steve Guyer, and Dean Lundeen; George Webster, who retired this year after many years of mowing; and LaVerne Mattson, long time mower who is taking a break this year

Gardeners—Lyle Anderson, Dean & Dori Burau, Jan Dunn & Crew, Wyatt Farley, Bonnie Guyer, Dean Lundeen, and Sandy & Dave Martens—apologies to anyone we may have missed

Meals-on-Wheels Volunteers for the month of **May**— Dean & Dori Burau, Doug & Donna Fraley, Steve & Bonnie Guyer, Jerri Kuhn, Kelley Mindrup, Pam Pescitelli, George Webster, Dale & Ruth White, and Laura Caupert coordinator

Northern Illinois Food Bank Volunteers—A variety of people volunteer on any given month giving of their time and labor to help feed our hungry neighbors.

Quilting Group—meeting monthly to piece quilts for Lutheran World Relief

Blessing Box Attendant, Patty Farley

Diaper Closet Donors



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.

JUNE Activities

- JUNE 15** Salem's Lunch Bunch will meet at Salem at 10:45 am on Thursday, June 15 to travel together to Pokanoka's Dockside Restaurant at Lake Shabbona. Please sign up if you plan to attend.
- JUNE 18** The Christian Education Committee invites everyone to join them in honoring ALL fathers at a delicious brunch on Sunday morning, June 18 after the 9:00 am worship service. Come alone or bring the whole family. No sign-up necessary!
- JUNE 20** Registration is closed for our June 20 shift at NIFB. The next opportunity to volunteer is July 25. Please note: this date is a departure from our usual third Tuesday routine. We were asked by NIFB to make this change due to a conflict on their end. Children 8 years old and over are eligible to attend. We have 20 slots reserved, and registration is needed before July 11. Please sign up on the appropriate sheet in the narthex. Volunteers meet in Salem's parking lot at 8:00 am to travel together to Geneva for the morning shift (9:00 am-11:30 am) at the Northern Illinois Food Bank warehouse. Tasks vary each month depending on what foods the bank has to be processed. New volunteers are always welcome to accompany Salem's group.
- JUNE 24** Our second Adopt-a-Road ditch cleaning walk of the season is set for Saturday, June 24 at 8:00 am. The group meets at Prairie View School at 8:00 am to walk our two-mile stretch of West Sandwich Road. About 8 walkers is ideal to get the job done in about an hour.
- JUNE 25** Salem's first Summer Sunday School Fun Day is set for Sunday June 25 right after worship. Children and adults of all ages are invited to join us for a nature hike and picnic at Sannauk Forest Preserve. We will take a short hike, collect a few leaves, and then make leaf print T-shirts. This activity will require pre-registration to ensure that T-shirts in the appropriate sizes are available. Please sign up in the narthex or call or email the church office.

COMING SOON



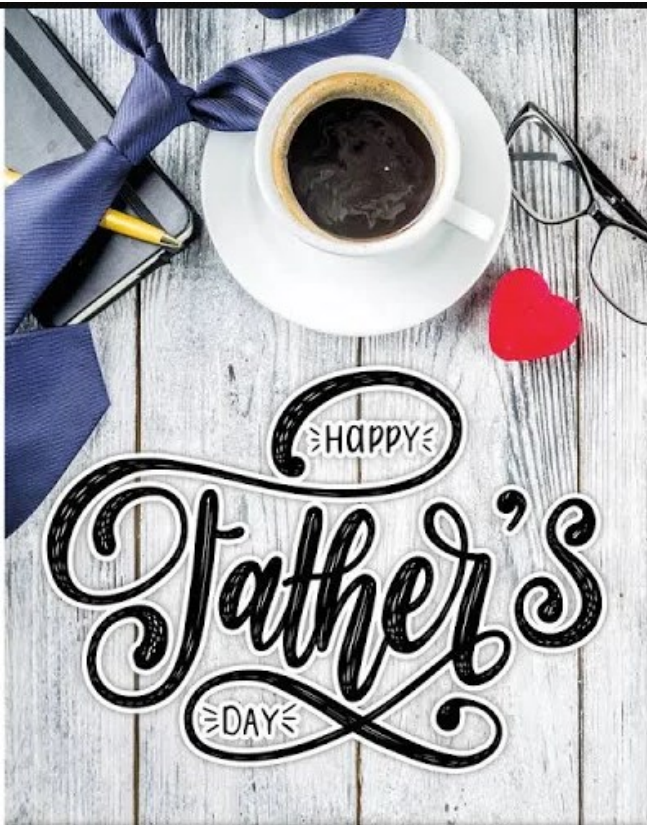
KANE COUNTY COUGARS BASEBALL GAME

FRIDAY, JULY 14—6:30 PM
\$8.00 PER TICKET
SIGN-UP AVAILABLE SOON

ANNUAL JONI KNOX SOFTBALL GAME & PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 3PM
SANNAUK FOREST PRESERVE





HELP US CELEBRATE ALL FATHERS
WITH A DELICIOUS
BRUNCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 10:00 AM

Biscuits & Gravy, Fruit, Coffee & Juice

Hosted by

Salem's Christian Education Committee

**A free will offering will benefit
Salem's Sunday School Program.**

Sundaes on Sunday



SUNDAYS

JULY 2 & AUGUST 13

10:00 AM

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

**Sandwich 4th
of July
Parade**

Saturday, July 1—10:00 am

**Line-up starts at 8:30 am at
the Sandwich Fairgrounds.**

**Salem will be entering a float.
The Outreach and Christian Education
Committees are coordinating this project.
The theme will be "God Created the
Heavens and the Earth".**

**All are welcome to help with float
preparation and to participate in the
parade. Please watch for more details.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

MAY WAS THE FINAL MONTH FOR SALEM'S SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR.



On Mother's Day Libby helped the students paint tote bags for their mothers. Then the students served punch and sweet treats to the Moms & Grandmothers in the group.



On our final Sunday of the School year we wore our "Jesus Loves Me" shirts. Pastor Steve invited the Sunday School staff to join the children during the children's sermon, and we all sang "Jesus Loves Me". Later that morning Sunday School families enjoyed a hot dog picnic lunch on the church grounds.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

ADVENTURES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

(right after Sunday worship)



JUNE 25

**HIKE & PICNIC
AT SANNAUK
FOREST PRESERVE**

JULY 16

**VISIT TO
HAYES FAMILY FARM**



AUGUST 13

**WATER GAMES
ON SALEM'S
SOUTH LAWN**

**ANYONE (NO AGE LIMIT) IS WELCOME TO JOIN IN THESE ACTIVITIES.
IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE TEXT YOUR RSVP TO BONNIE AT 815-970-4753
A WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT.**

Salem Kids Make a Difference



EMMA
newly confirmed member



BRANDON
acolyte, reader



WYATT
acolyte, usher, gardener



SAMANTHA
acolyte, reader



EVAN
acolyte, reader



HUNTER
communion bread baker



CAROLINE, CHASE, KINLEY & TRUITT
regular worshippers



Who is missing?

*We would love to
add your picture!*



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY—Nancy Hayes shared her experiences as a shepherd during the children’s sermon. She and Fred brought two of their lambs for “show and tell”.



May Northern Illinois Food Bank Volunteers



May Lunch Bunch



Mother’s Day Painting Event



Members of Salem’s Ruth Unit placed a brick in our Prayer Garden in memory of their late member and friend, Janet Klotz.

