



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

OCTOBER 6, 2023

VOL. 50, NO. 10

*What shall
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Throughout our faith journey, we are extended several invitations. From the invitation to make our confession of faith, to the invitation to care for a sick neighbor, to the invitation to bring food to the next church event, our life in a community of faith is full of invitation.

During our up-coming stewardship drive, our church community is going to be intentional about how we respond to the variety of invitations we receive and how those invitations spur us along in our faith development.

Jesus invites us to bring all that we are and all that we have when we become a follower, a disciple of Christ. It is a sojourn that is meant both to form us more into the image of Christ through the disciplines of study, worship, prayer, service, and generosity; as well as to strengthen us in becoming powerful agents for the good that God is doing in our world.

When we make an intentional decision about what we bring before Christ, we extend a blessing of health and wholeness to all of creation, because we are certain that this is ultimately what God desires. The world is broken and hurting and we are called to be a movement for wholeness among its many fractured pieces. We can be agents of grace, if we are generous in our response to the invitations that are presented to us.

Our faithful financial stewardship is one way we are invited to respond to Christ's invitation. Here at Salem, we hope soon to invite a full time Pastor to share our ministry with us. This action will bring with it increased financial responsibilities that we need to plan for now. Our generosity funds the ministry and mission that we bring to our community and world. I hope you will be intentional about responding to this important invitation to be with us, not simply to offer your pledge card, but to join us for the "What Shall We Bring" Brunch with guest speaker, Pastor Dennis Heaney on Sunday, November 12. The brunch is a pot luck, of course, so start thinking of what you shall bring! The time of study and reflection will conclude on Commitment Sunday as part of worship on the Sunday before Thanksgiving

God has done, and continues to do remarkable things through us and with us – things that matter in our community! Your prayers and your participation are keys to helping us advance further on the pathway of discipleship. We know that when the early church gathered, they did so with glad and generous hearts and that there was no need among them (Acts 2). We desire such a spirit of true community to be among us. I look forward to considering with you what it means for us to reflect on "What Shall We Bring," as we seek to be faithful disciples in this place.

Thank you for walking alongside of me as a part of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Blessings,

Kelly Clason for Salem's Stewardship Committee

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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Email: pastormindrup@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary, Etc.

Bookkeeper

Traditional Worship Coordinator

Director of Contemporary Worship

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

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Connie Hanson

Nancy Hayes

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

In our church family. . .



Welcome!

It is our pleasure to welcome the Wernli family into membership at Salem Lutheran Church. Bryan and Sarah and their children, Tyler and Elena come to us by transfer from St. John's Lutheran Church in Joliet. They live in Somonauk. They have been regular worshipers for some time. Sarah has already become an active member of Salem's Handchime Ensemble and Tyler and Elena are enjoying Sunday School activities.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT—Pat Clason*

CONTINUING— Jason Boczko, Ben Burkett*, Jane Burkett*, Laura Caupert*, Jackie Cline*, Ruth Erickson*, Elin Frietsch, Tom Glover*, Bonnie Guyer*, Steve Guyer*, Jean Hanson*, Shirley Hines*, Matthew Kee*, Mick Kimmey*, LaVerne Mattson*, Baby Henry Ryan-Melchor, Marci Bluestone, Jerry Burd, Darwin Classon, Debi Clausen, Darlene Comiskey, Connie Comer, Julie Cook, Rayden Davis, Shandol Dulin, Bobby E., Brad Engle, Sally Ferko, Kate Gage, Jo Gehlbach, Mary Gliszczynski, Mike Guzzardo, Ava Hawbaker, Sylvia and Cesar Hurtago, Dan Jackson, Steven Johnson, Jacob Kenyon, Tanya Kimmey, Jim Martin, Colleen McMahan, Nick Morgan, Carol Peisker, Joe Petit, Martha Poggi, 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, 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.

OCTOBER 3, 2023, SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. All ten council members attended this meeting.

Following devotions provided by Jacqueline Beverage, the minutes of the September 5, 2023, Salem Congregation Council meeting as prepared by Secretary Jacqueline Beverage were accepted.

Council members studied the financial reports for August 2023. Treasurer Bonnie Guyer reported the balances as of October 3, 2023, for the following accounts.

General Fund: \$10,532.22; Designated Fund: \$28,837.29; Capital Fund: \$31,038.89

Treasurer Bonnie Guyer noted that for the first time in many months, a transfer from the Capital Fund to the General Fund was made to pay current bills. That transfer of \$7000.00 is included in the \$10,532.22 reported in the General Fund. The treasurer's report as presented by Treasurer Bonnie Guyer was accepted.

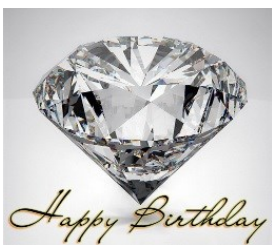
Regular monthly reports were made by Pastor Mindrup and committee representatives. Committee representatives were reminded to prepare budget requests for 2024. More details about committee work are available in the Salem Life, weekly news, or by talking with any council member.

With a meeting of Salem Congregation scheduled for Sunday, October 22, 2023, following the 9:00 a.m. worship service to elect members of Salem's Congregation Council, Nominating Committee members Jan Dunn, Sandra Martens, and Marilyn Wouda will be reminded to seek people willing to be elected to Salem's Congregation Council.

Alan Deaton reported a successful Crop Walk including \$3134.00 and 15 walkers from Salem. An executive session followed to discuss personnel, salary, wages, and employment.



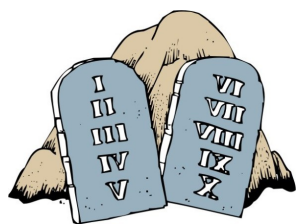
ZION GREY VANHAAG was born to Hunter Vanhaag and Serena Hall on July 25th in Iowa Park, Texas. Aimee (Haag) and Matt Vanhaag are his grandparents, and Deb Haag is the first-time great grandmother. Congratulations to this family on the blessing of this new child of God.



DIAMOND PLUS (75th +) BIRTHDAYS FOR OCTOBER:

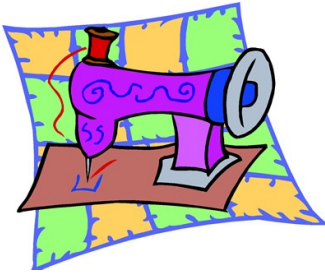
OCTOBER 3 JANET KAISER
OCTOBER 11 DONNA FRALEY
OCTOBER 16 RUTH WHITE
OCTOBER 27 JUDY ANDERSON

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE



OCTOBER: THE TENTH COMMANDMENT: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? We are to fear and love God, so that we do not entice, force, or steal away from your neighbors their spouses, household workers, or livestock, but instead urge them to stay and fulfill their responsibilities to our neighbors.



Salem's Quilt Group meets on Monday and Tuesday of the second week of each month to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Their next work days will be Monday and Tuesday, October 9 and 10, from 9 am to noon. Anyone who is interested would be welcome to come for any or all of the time. There are a variety of jobs—something for everyone. You do not have to have sewing experience. There are also take-home kits in the narthex for anyone who prefers to work at home.



Our October volunteer shift is set for Tuesday, October 17, 9:00-11:30 am. The registration for this shift is already closed. The next volunteer opportunity will be November 21. A sign-up sheet for November will be in the narthex later in October.



The Lunch Bunch group will be traveling to Starved Rock for lunch at noon on Thursday, October 19. Participants may meet in Salem's parking lot at 11:00 am to share rides, or they may choose to go on their own. Please sign-up in the narthex if you plan to attend. Be sure to indicate on the sign-up sheet whether you will be driving individually or with the group.



Our final road clean-up for the season is set for Saturday, October 21. The group will meet at 8:00 am at Prairie View School parking lot. The walk takes about one hour. Please wear long pants, sturdy shoes or boots, and work gloves. Safety vests and bags will be provided. At least eight walkers are needed. All are welcome to help us do our part for the environment.



Our friends at the Sandwich Church of the Nazarene, 205 West College Street, are opening a thrift store at their church on October 19. It will be open Thursdays through Saturdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to help work during the times the store is open. Call 221-227-3732 to volunteer or for more information.



We have learned that Fox Valley Community Services has achieved their goal of collecting enough bottle caps to make two benches. Thanks to those of you who have been bringing caps to Salem to help their cause. If anyone knows of another organization doing a similar project, we would be happy to help. Please contact the office if you have information about this.



Salem's Fellowship Committee plans to host a FALL COLORS WALK depending on the peak color in our area. Please watch for announcements when plans are finalized.

Rally Day

Salem members enjoyed a delicious brunch in the fellowship hall on a very rainy Rally Day Sunday. Thanks to generous dessert donors, raffle ticket buyers, and enthusiastic ticket sellers, the day earned \$384.00 for Salem's Sunday School program. THANK YOU!



This group of Salem volunteers, packed 8,788 pounds of Senior Food Boxes at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in September.



Outreach Committee members Patty Farley and Sharon Wallis passed out bags of chips at the Taste of Sandwich event on September 27.



These Sunday Schoolers made quick work of packing 57 complete Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Thanks to all who donated school supplies and to the sewers who made the drawstring bags—Cheryl Carls, Paula Mueller, Joanne VanPelt and Libby Welsch. These will be shipped to Lutheran World Relief for distribution world-wide.



Fifteen Salem walkers were at Hinckley on October 1 to walk for Church World Service CROP Walk. The Salem team raised \$3,134 so far and will continue to accept donations through October. The total includes \$314 earned by these Sunday School students with their mini walk on the church grounds.





Salem's 20th Annual

TRUNK OR TREAT



Saturday, October 28—3-4 pm

We invite all members and friends to park their decorated vehicles in the parking lot and hand out treats. Please sign-up if you plan to bring your vehicle. We have invited the children of the community to participate along with our own members. Please bring your children or your grandchildren and invite your friends and neighbors.

WE NEED YOUR TRUNKS!!!

Bonfire & Weenie Roast

4-6:00 pm

after Trunk or Treat



Immediately following Trunk or Treat the Fellowship Committee will host this fun-filled outing for EVERYONE, regardless of age. Come alone or bring the whole family! Invite friends. Bring lawn chairs & dress for the weather. If you can, consider bringing an extra chair or two for any guests. The committee will provide the hot dogs, the makings for s'mores, and beverages. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to pass.





GROWING
HOPE
G L O B A L L Y

PUBLIC INVITED!
FREE admission

Come...
enjoy

HARVEST DAY

Saturday OCTOBER 21 • 2023

1401 Suydam Road • Sandwich, Illinois
FOLLOW THE SIGNS

SANDWICH FAIRGROUNDS



10:30am Presentation

With photos from their visits Jerry & Toni Lundeen (Somonauk) recount the impact of GHG on locations, from inception through start up to results, especially as communities

See you
there!

- Lunch Served
- Fun, family activities
- Auction — **HOMEMADE PIES & MORE**
- Displays & Demonstrations

www. **Growing
Hope
Globally.org**



OVER \$1,300,000 = 23,600 people raised to food security

since 2004 by these three local groups

40 Farmers + 33 Churches* = \$70,000.00 (Projected 2023)
from the Somonauk, Earlville and Twin Rivers-Barrington Growing Projects
helping people in developing countries become self-sufficient
in growing their own food

More Info: TJLundeen@gmail.com

* REPRESENTING 9 DENOMINATIONS