



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Salem *LIFE*

NEWSLETTER OF SALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANDWICH, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

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From Pastor Steve



I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. Psalm 9:1

A long time ago, a good friend, now deceased, realized that her drinking had become a problem. She reached out for help and began to attend AA meetings.

Her sponsor suggested that, every night before bedtime she should write out a “gratitude list” – at least ten things for which she was thankful. She was told that giving thanks was a way to take her focus off of quitting drinking and to center on the presence of God.

The first time she tried to do it, she spent almost two hours staring at a blank sheet of paper. So depressed and angry over her alcoholism, so unhappy with the state her life was in, she could find nothing for which she was grateful.

What’s on your gratitude list this Thanksgiving? I hope that it goes beyond wealth, status, possessions – the creature comforts we usually call “blessings” – and moves toward gratitude that you are a forgiven sinner and have been given a place in God’s eternal kingdom. I hope that you are grateful for opportunities to serve others and to allow the love of Christ to become real in your life. If resentment and anger are poisoning your thankfulness, I hope that you know that God is present with you and is ready to be gracious and make a way for you.

High up on my list this year? I am grateful for all of you, for welcoming me and Kelley into your lives, for giving us a spiritual home, and for allowing me to continue to do the work that I love.

And what of my friend? As she recovered her sobriety and her sense of God’s work in her life, her gratitude list began to grow. Almost to the end of her days she wrote out that list every night. It had expanded to well over ten things, and took only minutes.

In that spirit, and with thanks to God for all that God has given, I wish you all a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving.

- Steve Mindrup

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Serving Christ!

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Reverend Steven Mindrup

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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

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In our church family. . .

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

DOROTHY LOWERY, 87, died peacefully on October 21 in Keller, Texas. Her funeral was held in Newark on October 29. Dorothy was the mother of the late Natali Ehrhart.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

CURRENT— The Family and Friends of Dorothy Lowery

CONTINUING— Tom Glover*, Lila Mattson*, Janet Klotz*, Marge Meyer*, Shirley Hines*, Pat Clason*, Ruth Erickson*, Steve Guyer*, Ben Burkett*, Jackie Cline*, Mick Kimmey*, Grace Pearson, Jim Kee, Darwin Classon, Mike Clayton, Mary Gliszczynski, Martha Poggi, Candy Gomes, 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, John Mason, Suzi Diab, Sally Ferko, Jacob Kenyon, Nadine Vehe, Steven Johnson, Bobby E., Brian DeFalco, Neil Stiver, Brian Porter, Wesley Calkins, Brad Engle, Colleen McMahon, Pearl Undesser, Jeff Shulkin, Julie Cook, Carol Peisker, Darlene Comiskey, Scott McGary, Ken Baumbach, 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, Kiersten Breunig, 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.

NOVEMBER MEMORY VERSE

O house of Jacob, let us walk in the
light of the Lord! - Isaiah 2:5

ELW 815, "I Want to Walk as a Child
of the Light"



What have you thanked the Lord for today?

joyfulabundance1111.com



NOVEMBER 2022 SALEM CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Salem's Congregation Council met at Salem on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, starting at approximately 6:30 p.m. Council members Jacqueline Beverage, Alan Deaton, Patricia Farley, Walter Farley, Donna Fraley, Sandy Martens, Pastor Steve Mindrup, and Nancy Rex attended this meeting.

Following devotions led by Nancy Rex, the minutes of the October 4, 2022, Salem Congregation Council meeting and the October 23, 2022, meeting of Salem Congregation were accepted as prepared by Secretary Alan Deaton.

Salem Congregation Council members studied the September financial reports. Balances in the following accounts as of October 27, 2022, were noted.

General Fund: \$10,433.28; Designated Fund: \$25,613.25; Capital Fund: \$26,338.08

Monthly reports were presented by Pastor Steve Mindrup and representatives of Salem's committees noting completed projects and events and plans for upcoming events.

Council members voted to designate Thanksgiving offerings to Our Sharing Pantry to be used for holiday meals and to designate Christmas offerings to Hesus House.

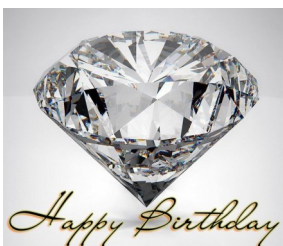
Nancy Rex informed council members of some needed organ repairs.

An update on the call process was presented, and council members were asked to begin thinking about congregation officers for 2023.

The first in a series of three Advent Midweek Worship Services starting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday December 6, 2022, will serve as devotions for the council meeting that will begin following that worship service and a time for snacks provided by members of Salem's Congregation Council.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED OCTOBER 23

At the congregational meeting held on Sunday, October 23, Donna Fraley and Durk Hellinga were elected to serve three year terms on Salem's Congregation Council beginning in January, 2023. We thank them for their willingness to serve in this very important way. Thanks also to those voting members who stayed after the worship service to ensure that a quorum was present to conduct the business of the congregation.



DIAMOND PLUS (75th +) BIRTHDAYS—We are working on a new format for our monthly calendar which will not lend itself to adding birthdays. Therefore, we will be noting these significant birthdays for the month here in the Salem *LIFE*.

Birthdays for November are:

November 1—Shirley Hines; November 18—Virginia Grimes

Dear Salem,

Thank you for the opportunity to go to LOMC Summer Camp this summer. My favorite experiences were canoeing on the Rock River and meeting new people and making new friends. I look forward to going again this summer. Thank you, Amelia Michels

Note: Amelia received a scholarship from our Servant Events Fund which helped make it possible for her to attend. This opportunity is available to any of Salem's young people. Please inquire in the church office if interested.





On Sunday, November 6 we remembered with thanksgiving those members of Salem who have passed to the Church Eternal since All Saints Day, 2021 —
 NATALI EHRHART
 DOROTHY LOWERY.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022
SALEM SUNDAY SCHOOL
HONORED:

JIM BERNHARDT	DEAN BURAU
DARWIN CLASSON	RONALD CUNZ
RONALD GENGLER	THOMAS GLOVER
VERDELL "ACE" HANSON	BOB HARPSTER
JAMES KEE	MICHAEL "MICK" KIMMEY
MARTIN MUELLER	WILLIAM NEGLEY
GEORGE WEBSTER	KENT WESSON

**Points to Ponder
 as we move closer to Commitment Sunday, November 20**

"Trust in the Lord Forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal." Isaiah 26:4

Did you know that you are very special, and that God loves you very much? Well, He does. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. You see, sin separates us from God. Jesus took our punishment for that sin by dying on the cross for us.

We can get right with God by knowing that we are sinners, by asking him for forgiveness, and by letting Him be Lord of our lives. After we do that, we can learn to **fully rely on God** in everything we do. When troubles come our way, we can have faith and know that Jesus is with us. He will never leave us or forsake us. He is our rock eternal. He wants what is best for us because He loves us more than anyone. He made us. So when troubles come our way, we don't have to be afraid, because God is with us, and He wants us to have faith that He will take care of us no matter what. Can you believe that with me?

As we prayerfully consider our pledge commitments, let us **fully rely on God, or F.R.O.G.** God will provide your way to give of yourself: your time, talents, and your financial gifts. Please return your pledges on **COMMITMENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022** during worship or mail them to the office as soon as possible.

Walking (or jumping) together (with feet, or claws, or hooves, or anything you got, now),

Donna Fraley, Kelly Clason, Sharon Wallis, Stewardship Committee
 Steven Mindrup, Interim Pastor



November at Salem

QUILT GROUP—The November work days for Salem's Quilters will be **Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8** 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. This past week Cheryl Carls delivered 28 quilts and 69 school kits to the warehouse in Elgin for shipment to Lutheran World Relief. Thank you, Cheryl; and thanks to all who made these donations possible.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK—Registration is full for our November 15th volunteer shift at the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The next volunteer opportunity will be December 20. NIFB is now requiring registration two weeks in advance, so please sign up no later than December 4 if you plan to go. 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.

NOVEMBER LUNCH BUNCH GATHERING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 11:30 AM

Hinckley Café

111 Lincoln Ave (Rt. 30 East)

We will meet there.

Please sign up to reserve your spot.

Call Donna Fraley (815-263-7227) if you need a ride.



Here are a few ways you can share - "for it is in giving that we receive." - St. Francis of Assisi

COAT COLLECTION for Hope Haven shelter in DeKalb. There are boxes in place to accept donations of good, clean winter coats, hats, mittens, and gloves for all ages. We would like to wrap this up by the first week of December.

FRANKLIN MALL PROJECT—Salem is a drop-off location for donations of non-perishable foods for the Sandwich Lions Club's annual holiday grocery boxes. Look for the red bin by the parking lot entrance from November 14—December 12.

DIAPER CLOSET—While we have designated the third Sunday of the month for our ongoing diaper collection, the need is always great, Your donations of diapers in any sizes are always welcome.

TOYS FOR TOTS—Salem Sunday School has chosen Toys for Tots as its sharing project. Anyone is welcome to bring new, unwrapped toys to Salem no later than December 11.

OUR SHARING PANTRY is providing Holiday Meal Boxes for our families. Each box contains a ham, fresh potatoes and all the extra's to complete a holiday meal for a family of 8. We can purchase these boxes at a discounted price of \$17 each. Your donations to help with this can be made through Salem. Salem's Congregation Council has designated all Thanksgiving offerings for Our Sharing Pantry holiday meals.

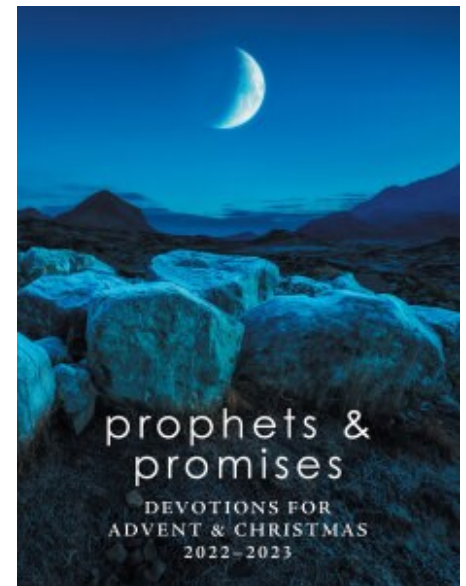


ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES
TUESDAYS, DECEMBER 6, 13 & 20, 6:00 pm

This midweek worship series has been planned to offer brief and reflective worship experiences to help us prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS

Salem’s Worship Committee has purchased copies of ***Prophets and Promises: Devotions for Advent & Christmas 2022—2023***. Copies of this devotional will be available soon to those who would like to explore the Advent season and celebrate the joy of the twelve days of Christmas and the day of Epiphany. During these days of Advent and Christmas, let us marvel at the power of God’s promises and the mystery of God with us in a newborn child. May God’s lasting promises give you hope and the good news of Emmanuel’s birth fill you with wonder and peace.



Looking ahead to **December**

FESTIVAL OF TREES Salem will once again be represented at the Sandwich Park District’s Festival of Trees held on December 3 & 4 .The location is yet to be announced. Our Sunday School will share a tree decorated with their handmade ornaments.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Our Sunday School students will present an original program based on the song, “The Friendly Beasts” on Sunday, December 4 during the education hour beginning at 10:15 a.m..

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION This traditional Christmas Eve worship service will be held on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24, at 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP A traditional worship service will be held on Christmas Day, December 25 at 9:00 a.m.




2023 GOD’S CREATION CALENDARS will available for purchase from 3N1 Youth Group members. Supply is limited, so please request yours early. Cost is \$10 per calendar. Please contact Kim Boczko at 630-429-4903 to reserve yours.



The Sandwich-Somonauk Ministerial Alliance has set a Community Thanksgiving Worship Service for Sunday evening, November 20, 6:30 pm at The Federated Church of Sandwich, 403 North Main Street, Sandwich.

The Federated Church is going to have a spaghetti supper to benefit their After School Care Program on Sunday, November 20, from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m., prior to the Community Thanksgiving Service at 6:30. The supper is limited to 100 people - by reservation only. If anyone would like to attend, please call Jane in the Federated Church office, at 815-786-8595 to get on the reservation list. A Free Will Offering will be taken.

 ENV # _____
 YOUR NAME(S) _____ HOW MANY PLANTS? _____
 I would like my plant(s) listed as follows: (i.e., in memory of, in honor of, etc.) _____

Will you pick up your plant(s) after December 25th? _____ YES ___ NO

Please enclose \$13.00 per plant. Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please order ASAP, as we have a limited number of plants reserved - first come-first served.

Trunk or Treat Fun on October 29, a Glorious Fall Day

Thanks to all those who provided creative trunks and treats for our visitors.





BONFIRE & WEENIE ROAST

Thanks to Salem's Fellowship Committee for hosting this fun event. A very special THANK YOU goes to Jay Knox, our expert fire-builder. A good time was had by all!

