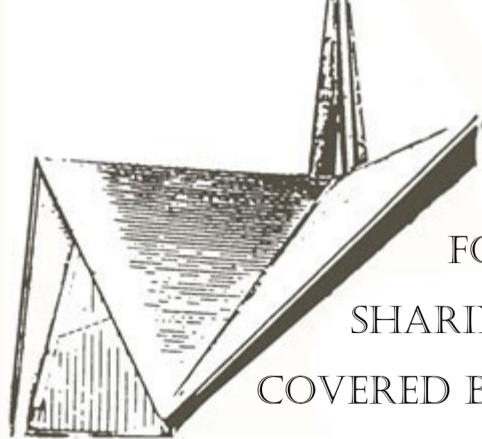


# Salem Lutheran Church



FOLLOWING JESUS,  
SHARING COMPASSION,  
COVERED BY GRACE



## *All Are Welcome Here!*

Pastor's Newsletter for May, 2023

Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is risen! (He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!) What a wonderful Easter celebration we had last month. The good news is it has not ended! As a church, we continue to celebrate the risen Jesus through the season of Easter this month. Sin and death do not win! The tomb where Jesus was buried in is empty! Jesus appeared to his disciples on the road and in the locked room! These events changed everything, and these events are the lifeblood of the church in every age. Because of Easter, we know Jesus is with us as we proclaim the good news of the Kingdom and the glory of God. At the 2023 Western Iowa Synod Assembly, I received a glimpse of that glorious future God promised. The theme of this year's Synod Assembly was "A Place for You," drawing on Jesus' open welcome to the communion table – a foretaste of the great wedding feast of the lamb of God that we have been exploring during our 9:00am Sunday Bible Study on the book of Revelation.

The last Sunday of this month will mark the end of this year's Easter season. Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> will be the beginning of Pentecost; when the disciples received the Holy Spirit to proclaim the gospel to all the world. It is also the Sunday where our four Confirmation students will publicly affirm their baptisms in worship! Keep Wyatt, Baret, Reese, and Reagan in your prayers as they prepare to affirm the gifts God has blessed them with and devote themselves to lifelong discipleship. Their confirmation is a time for us all to remember our own baptismal callings to follow the risen Jesus in his mission of love for the world.

In God's peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



# Salem Lutheran Church

## April 20th, 2023 Minutes

**President:** Tim Kenyon    **Treasurer:** Randy Cook  
**V. President:** Mike Linch    **Secretary:** Sherri Nissen

Chuck Taylor	Gary Boschee	Jewel Baseley	Phyllis Keuter
Claudia Peppers	Raquel Linch	Sandi Sickles	Deb Pantini

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### CHURCH COUNCIL minutes April 20, 2023      5:30 Meeting

#### Devotions by Pastor and Council

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Kenyon with the following members in attendance: Gary Boschee, Randy Cook, Raquel Linch, Sherri Nissen, Claudia Peppers, Sandi Sickels, Chuck Taylor, and Pastor Evan. Arlan Biere was in attendance. Chris Lane, Mike Linch, Deb and Emma Pantini were absent.

Approve the agenda: M/S/C by Sandi Sickels and Randy Cook

Approve March council minutes: M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Claudia Peppers as amended with the correct spelling of Chuck Taylor under Old Business C – Insurance Quotes

#### Treasurer's Report by Randy Cook

All bills are paid, and everything is current.

The Year End Report is still being worked on.

Randy reported with great regret he is resigning as the church Treasurer effective June 30

#### Old Business:

Media Com/Windstream Quotes: the current plan being used will continue as is.

Insurance Quote Cuck Taylor: The current insurance plan expires May 1, 2023. Current plan will be \$5,885 plus workman's comp. The property committee and Chris Lane met with Ed Hansen, representing MinistryFirst Brotherhood Mutual, an American Church Group to compare policies. The committee is recommending this quote of \$5,356 with workman's comp. M/S/C by Randy Cook and Gary Boschee to go with Ed Hansen, MinistryFirst adding all optional coverages, but Worldwide Extensions. (listed on the last page of the policy)

Christmas Tree Placement: the property committee recommends a real tree with placement on the tile due to the ease of clean up, more room on the altar, moving the lecture, and safety with using the ladders on the few steps. Arlan Biere spoke on behalf himself and others concerns stating the tree needs to be in a prominent place in the front of the church to be seen as it is a representation of Christ. Pastor Evan stated there is no theological reason the tree should be on the altar, and we could brainstorm arrangement of the lectern and other things at the altar. Arlan would like to have a congregational vote. It was suggested to possibly have a survey made and ready to share this fall. **Item has been tabled until the July/August meeting.**

#### New Business:

May Benevolence: M/S/C by Sandi Sickels and Chuck Taylor to give 4% of the benevolence to an area family in need with the remaining 6% to synod.

Fellowship Hall Usage: M/S/C by Randy Cook and Claudia Peppers use by Gail and Roxie Peterson at no charge for a Celebration of Life service for Dean Peterson May 27, 2023

Fellowship Hall Usage M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Gary Boschee by Jodi Hitz for ServeSafe Training November 13, and 14 or 16 (working out this date with quilters)

Fellowship Hall Usage M/S/C by Chuck Taylor and Randy Cook for elections September 12 and November 7, 2023

Office Equipment: M/S/C by Randy Cook and Chuck Taylor for Brenda to spend up to \$350 for an office chair.

Electronic Giving through Venmo or PayPal. Pastor has also learned of an electronic tithe at no cost.

**Item will be tabled until the May meeting.**

Property on going Projects:

M/S/C by Randy Cook and Sandi Sickels to accept the bid from Alan Gates at approx. \$1900 to repair/run a line to the outside sign and replace the lights in the sanctuary with LED lighting. He will work in conjunction with Randy McIlravey when he does the dirt work (trenching the line)

M/S/C by Randy Cook and Gary Boschee to accept the quote from Simmons Construction of \$5185 + \$50 per hour, understanding the cost can go up to \$7,200 quickly to sheet rock and repair the alcoves in the sanctuary. **(The intention is to repair it correctly not knowing what will be found once they start the job)**

M/S/C by Randy Cook and Claudia Peppers for window glazing and painting by Carl Peterson of Lenox. He is the only person in the area that would do this and would need to do a few windows first to give an estimate based on time it take per window.

M/S/C by Sandi Sickels and Raquel Linch for Alan Gates to repair kitchen circuits. Cost estimate unknown as current circuits and boxes are old and discontinued.

Projects already approved and funded through memorials are food shelf (to begin April 26) and playground repair. Brenda has volunteered to plant flowers along the south windows as she divides plants at home. Sherri will help her.

Committee Reports: None

Christian Education: the last day for youth Sunday School will be May 7<sup>th</sup>, and confirmation will be May 28, 2023.

Church Property: see section G above

Outreach Ministry: Six members plus Pastor volunteered at Meals of the Heartland with 87,000 meals packaged. The kitchen committee has been approved by WELCA of Nancy T, Sandi S, and Sherri N. We will have a sign up for the Food Pantry for May 21.

Worship & Music: services have been planned through June 4. Julia Weisshaar-Mullin will be performing

some of the music during services practicing for long term when Elaine and/or Jodi are absent.

Finance: no meeting

Memorial Committee: New items have been purchased with memorials for the kitchen and have been organized and put in place.

Stewardship: no meeting

Endowment: no meeting

Mutual Ministry: no meeting

Other:

The next meeting will be May 18, 2023, at 5:30 pm. Opening devotions will be led by Pastor Evan and Council. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

Sherri Nissen, Recording Secretary

## Pastor Report for April, 2023

**Visitations:** 3 visitations.

**Meetings:**

Met with CultureALL on 4/13.

Outreach meeting on 4/18.

Worship & Music meeting on 4/20.

Council Meeting on 4/20.

**Synod and Ecumenical Work:**

Met bi-weekly with ELCA conference pastors on Tuesdays over Zoom.

First Call Education with the Synod at Le Mars Convention Center on 4/21.

Attended the 2023 Western Iowa Synod Assembly from 4/21 – 4/22.

**Christian Education:**

Led Adult Sunday School on Revelation at 9:00am weekly. Bible Study took a break on Easter Sunday.

Hosted Salem's 2023 Leadership Retreat on 4/29.

Taught the year's final Wednesday Confirmation Class on 4/26

**Community Presence**

Attended Creston Human Rights Coalition meeting on 4/16.

Volunteered with Outreach at Meals of the Heartland on 4/19.



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*We pray for those people who are hurting and going through some unimaginable circumstances. We pray for those who want their lives to be better and to be free from those things that may be holding them back. We may not know them, but God knows their situation. Amen.*



Joseph Lochmoeller & family, Joanna Osler, Suzanne Lees, Jami Gurley, Alyssa Dea, Linda Huffman, Larry & Claudia Peppers, Tim Kinkade, Harriet Kendrick, Gail Peterson, Zach Henry, Don Butler, Arlan Biere, Gregory Boschee (Gary's twin brother), Ben Herzberg, Jean Paul, Becky Keuter, Dorothy Vanella, Mike Cary, Larry Kimball, John McNaught, and Tony McNaught.



*We can never thank our military men and women enough for their service and sacrifice to our country and its people. Today we express gratefulness and honor to these military troops, past and present. We pray to be shown ways in our communities, churches, and families to thank and love them better.*

*Keep and protect these heroes and their families.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.*

Mike Crigger, Str. Airman Travis Mathis





Our group had a great time volunteering for Meals from the Heartland on April 19th! May the Hearty Packs we helped create be a blessing to feed those who are hungry.



Empowering people to  
save starving children



*From the Salem*



*Committee*

We have a newly formed Kitchen Committee; Sandy Sickels, Sherri Nissen and Nancy Taylor.

The kitchen cupboards have been cleaned and organized. We ask to you please have the courtesy to put back items in the kitchen where you found them.

Also please don't bring anything new into the kitchen unless it is needed.

We appreciate your help in keeping Salem's kitchen in order.

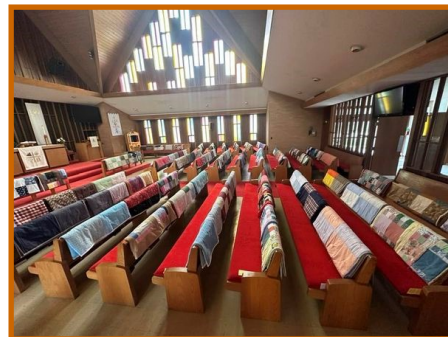
# LET'S READ THE BIBLE TOGETHER IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

1st	2Samuel 5:1-10/ 1Chronicles 11-12	8th	Psalm 25/29/33/36/39	17th	2Samuel 16-18
2nd	Psalms 133	9th	2Samuel 8-9/ 1Chronicles 18	18th	Psalm 26/40/58/ 61-62/64
3rd	Psalm 106-107	10th	Psalm 50/53/60/75	19th	2Samuel 19-21
4th	2Samuel 5:11-6:23/ 1Chronicles 13-6	11th	2Samuel 10/ 1Chronicles 19/Psalm 20	20th	Psalm 5/38/41-42
5th	Psalms 1-2/15/ 22-24/47/68	12th	Psalm 65-67/69-70	21st	2Samuel 22-23/Psalm 57
6th	Psalm 89/96/100- 101/ 105/132	13th	2Samuel 11-12/ 1Chronicles 20	22nd	Psalm 95/97-99
7th	2Samuel 7/ 1Chronicles 17	14th	Psalm 32/51/86/122	23rd	2Samuel 24/ 1Chronicles 21-22/ Psalm 30
		15th	2Samuel 13-15	24th	Psalm 108-110
		16th	Psalm 3-4/12-13/28/55	25th	1Chronicles 23-25
				26th	Psalm 131-138-139/ 143-145
				27th	1Chronicles 26-29/Psalm 127
				28th	Psalm 111-118
				29th	1King 1-2/ Psalm 37/ 71/94
				30th	Psalm 119:1-88
				31st	1King 3-4/ 2Chronicles 1/Psalm 72



Chris Anderson	4th
Kate Guiter	5th
Elizabeth Kenyon	7th
Tim Kenyon	9th
Betty Wager	15th
Judy Eklund	28th
Brenda Sedlmayr	30th
Mark Sedlmayr	30th

Thank you to the dedicated quilters for all of your hard work; Joyce Anderson, Carolyn Biere, Janet Eilers, Judy Eklund, Mary Henriksen, Linda Huffman, Helen Mosman, Becky Nardy, Claudia Peppers, Roxie Peterson, and Nancy Taylor.



A big thank you to all the folks who contributed to making the quilt dedication Sunday, April 23 a blessing. G And H shipping in Greenfield transports our Lutheran World Relief items to Saint Paul for us so thank you to them also.

## Miriam Circle



Miriam Circle will met  
May 4th—6:30 pm at Salem



Don & Helen Mosman	6th
Bill & Sara Bollinger	18th
Arlan & Carolyn Biere	19th
Jeremie & Heather Peterson	27th
Mike & Lacey Richardson	27th
Wayne & Deb Pantini	29th
Dick & Sue Bergstrom	30th
Lamona & Bryon Bilderback	30th



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  <p>Pastor Evan is off on Mondays and is out of the Office every Tuesday Morning for Text Study with our ELCA conference pastors.</p> <p>Brenda is in the office Tuesday– Thursday 8:30 to 2:30</p> </div>						
	1 Pastor's Day Off  Brenda Off	2 1:30 Quilting	3	4 Miriam Circle 6:30 @ Church	5 Brenda Off	6
7 10am Worship & Communion	8 Pastor's Day Off  Brenda Off	9 1:30 Quilting	10	11	12 Brenda Off	13
14 10am Worship  	15 Pastor's Day Off  Brenda Off	16 1:30 Quilting	17	18 Council Mtg 5:30 pm	19 Brenda Off	20
21 10am Worship & Communion  	22 Pastor's Day Off  Brenda Off	23 1:30 Quilting	24	25	26 Brenda Off	27
28 10am Worship Pentecost Sunday Communion  Confirmation	29 Offices Closed  	30 1:30 Quilting	31			

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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