

# Salem Lutheran Church



FOLLOWING JESUS,  
SHARING COMPASSION,  
COVERED BY GRACE

HELLO  
September



---

Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

With September, summer is coming to a close. While that means summer break is over, it also means Salem's Rally Sunday is right around the corner! For our 2023 Rally Sunday, I want us to consider these words from the Bible, Hebrews 10:23-25. Below is the CEB translation with the verse numbers in parentheses.

(23) Let's hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, because the one who made the promises is reliable. (24) And let us consider each other carefully for the purpose of sparking love and good deeds. (25) Don't stop meeting together with other believers, which some people have gotten into the habit of doing. Instead, encourage each other, especially as you see the day drawing near.

Sometimes pastors and congregations use this passage from Hebrews to try to guilt people into attending Sunday service more often. I don't believe that is the spirit of what scripture is trying to say. The preceding verses before verse 25 help us see understand what the biblical author is trying to communicate. We gather as believers not just to show up, but that we may remind each other our purpose as church; a purpose of sparking love and good deeds, knowing our hope is in the Jesus Christ. When we rally together under common purpose, we encourage each other on our journeys as disciples.

Who in your neighborhood needs to be encouraged? Invite them to rally with us!

How can we as the church encourage you on your discipleship journey? Let's chat! Because that is what the church is all about.

In God's peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



# Salem Lutheran Church

## August 17th, 2023 Minutes

### OFFICERS:

**President:** Tim Kenyon **Treasurer:** Mike Linch  
**V. P.:** Gary Basely **Acting Secretary:** Raquel Linch  
**Recording Secretary:** Sherri Nissen

**Members :** Chris Lane, Sandi Sickels, Deb Pantini, Gary Boschee,  
Tim Kenyon, Mike Linch, Raquel Linch, Sherri Nissen and Jewel Baseley.

### Devotions by Tim Kenyon

The meeting was called to order by President, Tim Kenyon with the following members in attendance: Pastor Evan, Jewel B, Gary B, Mike L, Raquel L, Chris L, and Sandi S. Sherri Nissen was absent. Tim K served as acting secretary.

Approve the agenda: M/S/C by Gary Boschee and Sandi Sickels

Approve July council minutes: M/S/C by Mike Linch and Raquel Linch

### Treasurer's Report by Mike Linch

Bills are paid and we are current to date. Contributions are still lagging behind expenses.

One of the CDs will be cashed in to assist with cash flow.

M/S/C by Raquel L and Gary B to Approve Treasurers Report.

Pastor's Report included notations that office hours are posted. Also see attached report in the newsletter.

### Old Business:

Electronic Offering: status will be reviewed in September.

Christmas Tree Planning was reviewed. After much prayer, deliberation, and discussion Council felt that based on safety concerns associated with accessibility, with Safety concerns associated with removing/replacing the lectern, and with having a large tree located at the altar level weighed in favor of placing the tree in the east area of the sanctuary. Placement in the east area of the sanctuary was also noted to be more consistent with Theological considerations.

M/S/C by Raquel L and Mike L for the Christmas tree to be placed in the east area of the sanctuary. By unanimous vote the measure was approved. The council confirmed that it should be a live tree and expressed the recommendation that the tree be large enough to be easily visible in the sanctuary.

M/S/C by Jewel B. and Gary B to approve the bill for the window glazing/painting as presented

### New Business:

M/S/C by Pastor Evan and Sandi S, to have August Benevolence directed to Maui relief efforts

Council discussed pros/cons of including statistical information in the bulletin. Pastor noted that the focus should be on Sunday worship.

M/S/C by Gary B and Pastor Evan to post a brief monthly synopsis (Monthly expenses, Monthly contributions to date, and attendance) on the east bulletin board and on the west (hallway) bulletin board for informational purposes.

**Committee Reports:**

Christian Education: Rally Sunday will be September 10<sup>th</sup> (outdoor service is anticipated -see property committee report below) Fall Sunday School planning is on hold due to uncertainty of expected numbers.

Church Property: Work on the sanctuary ceiling and lighting has been moved back to the first part of September. During the time work is being done services may be outside or in fellowship hall depending on weather.

Outreach Ministry: reported 231 persons were served meals August 7-8 for the One in Christ Meals. Salem will be assisting with Sleep in Heavenly Peace event September 22.

Worship & Music: no meeting

Finance: no meeting

Memorial Committee:

Stewardship: no meeting

Endowment: no meeting

Mutual Ministry: no meeting

Other: M/S/C by Mike L and Chris L for Salem and Pastor to participate in the SWCC event on September 13.

Council will continue to encourage volunteers to join council to fill remaining vacancies.

The next meeting will be September 21, 2023, at 5:30 pm. Opening devotions will be led by Tim Kenyon. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by acting secretary Tim Kenyon



**Visitations:** 7 visitations.

**Meetings:**

Christian Education meeting on 8/16.

Council Meeting on 8/17.

**Synod and Ecumenical Work:**

Met weekly with ELCA conference pastors on Tuesdays over Zoom.

Union County Ministerial Alliance meeting on 8/16.

**Christian Education:**

Led Adult Sunday School weekly at 9:00am. We are currently studying the Apostles Creed.

Attended the first Pizza & Prayer night at Salem on 8/16.

**Community Presence**

Attended Union County Food Coalition meeting on 8/3.

Provided pastoral care at the SWCC vigil for Maddie Stewart on 8/1.

**Special Services**

Led worship in Creston assisted living and nursing homes on 8/4.



*Congratulations*

Ann Levine was honored with the Teacher of the Year Award by the Archdiocese of Des Moines. Ann will be beginning her 45th year of teaching this year at St. Malachy School. Ann celebrated this honor at the Bishop's Annual Celebration in Des Moines with her family and co-workers.



**SUNDAY—SEPTEMBER 10TH**

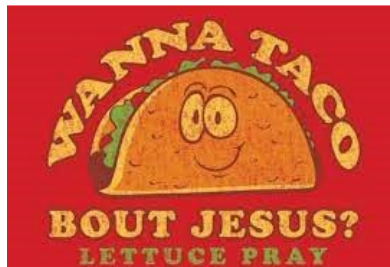
*\*Blessing of backpacks and school supplies\**

Families, join us for worship service at 10:00 am

**TAILGATE LUNCH TO FOLLOW**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SUNDAY!**

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!**



*Family Faith*  
**NIGHT**

**Taco's & Prayer—September 27, 2023—6:30 pm**

Taco's & drinks provided. Sign up sheet in Narthex.

Any questions contact Dennis Nardy 641-202-1464

### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

1. Who was Moses' successor after his death?
2. Paul was shipwrecked on what island?
3. What are we told to do in the fifth commandment?
4. How many books have the name John in the title?
5. How did Paul escape from Damascus?



1. Joshua 2. Malta 3. Honor your father and mother 4. 4 5. In a basket down the city wall



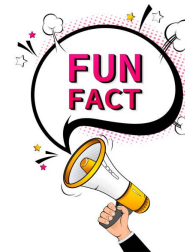


MENU		PIES \$2.50
COFFEE & ROLL	\$2.50	Blueberry
COFFEE & PIE	3.00	Cherry
ROLLS	2.00	Cherry-sugar free
PIE	2.50	Custard
PIE ALAMODE	3.00	Key Lime
SLOPPY JOE & CHIPS	\$4.00	Lemon
COFFEE, TEA, LEMONADE	50	Peach
free refills		French silk
CARRY OUT AVAILABLE!		Alouette
		Blackberry
		Blackberry
		PIE ALAMODE \$1.00



THANK YOU to all who answered the Holy Spirit's calling to pitch in to make the 2023 Salem Rummage and Bake Sale & Luncheon a success! Special thanks to Joyce Anderson for her work as kitchen crew leader, Becky Nardy as bake sale crew leader, and Elaine Fargo and Barb Kenyon for assisting me with organization of the rummage sale! Many hands make light work of all the tasks required for this fundraiser. The money raised goes to charities supported by the Salem Women of the ELCA. Thank you for the part(s) you played in this ministry!

Sandi Sickels



1. You probably know that snails are pretty slow creatures, but did you know that they also take the longest naps? One nap can last up to three years!
2. If you're a cat lover, then you may be surprised by this interesting fact: Cats can't taste anything that's sweet. That's probably why they can't get enough of their favorite salty snack.
3. Not only are sea lions totally adorable, but they're also very musical. They are the only animal that can clap to a beat.
4. You may know that everyone's fingerprints are different, but did you know that the same is true of everyone's tongue print?



## UPCOMING Events



September 10th—**RALLY SUNDAY**—Blessing of backpacks and school supplies

September 12th—Special Election at Salem Fellowship Hall

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Workshop—Sept. 22nd 5-7 pm & Sept. 23rd 8-11 am

At the True Value Parking Lot

September 21st—Church Council Meeting 5:30 pm

September 27th—Taco's & Prayer 6:30 pm



**FAITH**  
is like Wi-Fi,  
it's invisible but  
it has the power  
to connect you to  
what you need.



### Salem Outreach Committee

Pictured serving One in Christ Meals  
to area children on  
August 7th and 8th.

Served a total of 231 meals.  
Bill & Carol Ott, Dennis & Becky  
Nardy, Sherri Nissen ,  
(Note pictured) Joan Lienemann  
Tiggs, and Lamoni Bilderback.



This fall, we are having an in-kind gathering of Lutheran World relief kit supplies. We will be assembling these in September and October and all donations are appreciated!

## **SCHOOL KITS**

- ◇ Four 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8x10; no loose-leaf paper
- ◇ One 30 centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ◇ One pencil sharpener
- ◇ One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ◇ Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- ◇ Five blue or black ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ◇ One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ◇ One 2 ½" eraser

All items should be new. Any of these items you can donate will be greatly appreciated.

## **PERSONAL CARE KITS**

- ◇ • 1 light-weight bath-sized towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- ◇ • 2 bath-size bars of soap (4-5 oz.) any brand in original wrapping
- ◇ • 1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (Multipacks may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope. No plastic baggies, please)
- ◇ • 1 metal nail clippers
- ◇ One sturdy comb



## **BABY CARE KITS**

- ◇ • 2 receiving blankets
- ◇ • 2 pairs of socks
- ◇ • 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- ◇ • 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- ◇ • 2 bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars

\*Sizes 6 to 25 months may be used. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.



**Nobody really knows who you are inside  
but you and God. R U who U say U R?**

**Christianity's not a theory taught by  
theological talks-it's Christ living in you!**

**Why do we always want a speaker when  
Jesus, Himself, is speaking to us?**





## Happy Anniversary

Gary & Sherri Boschee 9/05

Randy & Joni Cook 9/16

Jason & Kathy Kendrick 9/21

Gail & Roxie Peterson 9/29

## Miriam Circle



September 7th

We will meet at Joyce Anderson's home.



James Wilson 09/01

Emma Pantini 09/02

Don Mosman 09/13

Lacey Richardson 09/13

Gwen Buck 09/19

Jonathan Kendrick 09/20

Carolyn Biere 09/24

Jacob Cook 09/26

**GOD PLACES OBSTACLES  
ALONG YOUR JOURNEY TO  
PREPARE YOU FOR THE  
BLESSINGS THAT AWAIT  
YOU AT THE FINISH LINE.**



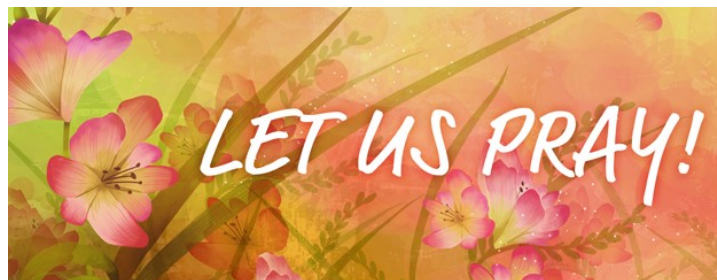
*We pray for those people who are hurting and going through some unimaginable circumstances. We pray for those who want their lives to be better and to be free from those things that may be holding them back. We may not know them, but God knows their situation. Amen.*



Joseph Lochmoeller & family, Jami Gurley, Larry & Claudia Peppers, John & Tony McNaught, Larry Kimball, Mike Carry, 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, Dianne Nielson, Daryl Nissen, Jerry Nissen and Kathy Kendrick.



*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.*



LET'S READ  
**THE BIBLE**  
TOGETHER



1st	Ezekiel 18-19	13th	Joel	24th	Esther 6-10
2nd	Ezekiel 20-21	14th	Daniel 1-3	25th	Ezra 7-10
3rd	Ezekiel 22-23	15th	Daniel 4-6	26th	Nehemiah 1-5
4th	Ezekiel 24-27	16th	Daniel 7-9	27th	Nehemiah 6-7
5th	Ezekiel 28-31	17th	Daniel 10-12	28th	Nehemiah 8-10
6th	Ezekiel 32-34	18th	Ezra 1-3	29th	Nehemiah 11-13
7th	Ezekiel 35-37	19th	Ezra 4-6		Psalms 126
8th	Ezekiel 38-39		Psalms 137	30th	Malachi 1-4
9th	Ezekiel 40-41	20th	Haggai 1-2		
10th	Ezekiel 42-43	21st	Zech 1-7		
11th	Ezekiel 44-45	22nd	Zech 8-14		
12th	Ezekiel 46-48	23rd	Esther 1-5		



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>september</div>						
<div>Pastor Evan is off on Mondays and is out of the Office every Tuesday Morning for Text Study with our ELCA conference pastors.</div>					1 Brenda off	2
3 9am Adult SS 10am Worship & Communion	4 Office Closed 	5 1:30 Quilting	6	7 Miriam Circle @ Joyce Anderson 6:30 pm	8 Brenda off	9 Vision Retreat @ 9am  Vision Retreat @ 2:30pm
10 9am Adult SS 10am Worship  	11 Office Closed	12 Election held at Salem 	13	14	15 Brenda off	16
17 9am Adult SS 10am Worship, Youth SS and Communion	18 Office Closed	19 1:30 Quilting	20	21 Council Meeting @5:30	22 Brenda off	23
24 9am Adult SS 10am Worship & Youth SS  Human Rights Coalition Mtg	25 Office Closed	26 1:30 Quilting	27	28	29 Brenda off	30

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

602 W Townline  
Creston, Iowa 50801

Pastor: Evan McVann

414-412-6467

[pastorevan@salemluth.net](mailto:pastorevan@salemluth.net)

Office: Brenda Strauss

[office@salemluth.net](mailto:office@salemluth.net)

Facebook:

SALEM Lutheran  
Church-Creston, Iowa

Website: [salemluth.net](http://salemluth.net)

YouTube

Salem Lutheran Church Creston IA

