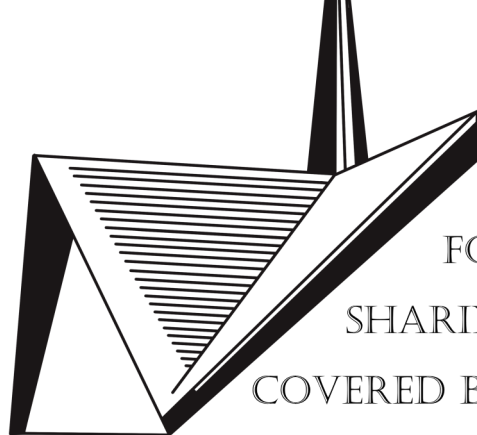


# Salem Lutheran Church



FOLLOWING JESUS,  
SHARING COMPASSION,  
COVERED BY GRACE



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## Pastor's Newsletter for July, 2023

Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

Happy summer to you all! I hope you are enjoying the wonder warm weather God has blessed us with so far. God has blessed all of us in so many ways. The beauty of earth is a reminder to remember how God's presence is showing up in our lives. Growing up, my pastor back in Milwaukee would always say, "We are blessed to be a blessing to others." This summer, I believe Salem Lutheran is living into this mantra as we have begun our outdoor food shelf, "The Long Table." If you have interest in being a part of maintaining this new food ministry of blessing for those in need, let me or anyone on the Outreach committee know.

Additionally Adult Sunday School continues all summer long! Recently in Adult Sunday School, we have been talking about the largest religions in the world, following a great book titled *Honoring our Neighbor's Faith*. The last number of weeks we have gone over the basic beliefs of Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism while comparing them to Lutheran belief. While we are taking a break from Adult Sunday School on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will finish our world religion series talking about Islam on July 9<sup>th</sup>. After that we will be starting an exciting new series together exploring the Apostles' Creed. The Apostles' Creed is ancient statement of faith that Christians has recited together for centuries. In fact, we still recite it every Sunday during worship at Salem! Perhaps you have been attending worship for awhile and not thought much of the creed. Perhaps you have questions about the creed and what it means for us today. If so, this is the perfect series for you to join to learn more and grow in your faith! We'll be meeting at 9:00am every Sunday starting on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there.

In God's peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



## **Salem Church Council Minutes**

June 16th, 2022

**President:** Tim Kenyon

**Treasurer:** Randy Cook

**V. President:** Mike Linch

**Secretary:** Sherri Nissen

Chuck Taylor

Gary Boschee

Phyllis Keuter

Deb Pantini

Claudia Peppers

Chris Lane

Sandi Sickles

Raquel Linch

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### CHURCH COUNCIL minutes

June 15, 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, Chris Lane, Mike Linch, Raquel Linch, Pastor Evan, Sherri Nissen, Deb Pantini, Claudia Peppers, Sandi Sickles, and Chuck Taylor. and Pastor Evan. Emma Pantini was absent.

Approve the agenda: M/S/C by Chuck Taylor and Claudia Peppers with the change to add D. Microphones and E. Mediacom under old business.

Approve May council minutes: M/S/C by Claudia Peppers and Deb Pantini

#### Treasurer's Report by Randy Cook

Contributions and Expenses are running like the last few months.

We are overspending approximately \$2,000 per month.

Discussion – Tim Kenyon suggested the Finance Committee meet to discuss cashing in one of the CDs. Randy Cook stated most of the finance committee were in attendance at this council meeting, and a decision could be made at the time. Chuck Taylor questioned whether it was better to cash in one of the \$10,000 CDs now versus the \$5,000 one and have to do it again later. MSC by Randy Cook and Chuck Taylor **WHEN/AS NEEDED** to be allowed cash in one of the \$10,000 CDs to help cover general fund expenses. We would have one \$10,000 CD and one \$5,000 CD remaining in investment.

Pastor's Report – see attached report in the newsletter.

#### Old Business:

Electronic Offering: If we went with Venmo as an option we would need to have an old cell phone and number to use to activate google voice free of charge. "Tithing through ELCA" cost is \$50 per month -continue further discussion.

Christmas Tree Placement: tabled until the July/August meeting.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace: Adult Sunday school will be giving a \$20 monthly donation to help support the program. Update that checks will be sent in care of John Walsh, President of Union County.

Microphones: M/S/C by Mike Linch and Chuck Taylor to purchase a three-piece set like we have, with a microphone, transmitter, and receiver for \$629. As well as a charging base and rechargeable battery for \$249. The cost will come from replacement funds.

The Mediacom bill for phone and internet runs approximately \$250 per month. They do not have a cheaper package to purchase. Windstream does not cover the internet expense. Nothing will be changed at this time.

New Business:

July Benevolence: M/S/C by Randy Cook and Chuck Taylor to give to the Creston Area Food Pantry.  
Committee Reports:

Christian Education: Four youth received Confirmation May 28, 2023

Church Property: Trenching for the electrical sign and yard repair will begin soon. Dirt work and reseeding will now take place this fall due to lack of rain. Glazing the upstairs windows will begin soon. The weeds in the concrete have been sprayed.

Outreach Ministry: The Long Table Food Shelf is up and running. This has been well received by the community. We will be helping at the Food Pantry July 16, and serving One in Christ meals August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

Worship & Music: meeting soon

Finance: no meeting

Memorial Committee: A memorial has been given in Cliff Olsen's name with the family requesting it help with repair of the sanctuary ceiling. Additional funds have also been given in Linda Hultquist name. The remaining balance is 9,228.94. Total Memorial funds is \$12,212.36. Various memorial funds are for repair of the playground, organ maintenance, kitchen electrical, and basement restrooms.

Stewardship: no meeting

Endowment: no meeting

Mutual Ministry: no meeting

Other:

The next meeting will be July 20, 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

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**Visitations:** 3 visitations.

**Meetings:**

Music & Worship meeting on 6/1 and 6/20.

Council meeting on 6/15.

**Synod and Ecumenical Work:**

Met weekly with ELCA conference pastors on Tuesdays over Zoom.

**Christian Education:**

Led Adult Sunday School weekly at 9:00am.

Leadership retreat check-in on church goals for 2023 on 6/25.

**Community Presence:**

Attended Union County Food Coalition meeting on 6/1.

Volunteered at the Creston Human Rights Coalition Juneteenth event on 6/18.

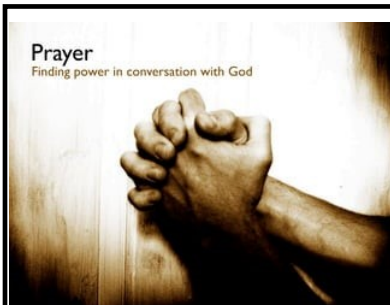
**Personal:**

Time off from 6/8 – 6/14 to attend Amanda's graduation from seminary.

Time off from 6/28 – 7/4 for vacation.



**Pastor's Report**



GOD HEARS US  
**PRAY**



Joseph Lochmoeller & family  
Suzanne Lees  
Jami Gurley  
Linda Huffman  
Larry & Claudia Peppers  
John & Tony McNaught  
Larry Kimball  
Mike Cary  
Dorothy Vanella



Tim Kinkade  
Harriet Kendrick  
Gail Peterson  
Zach Henry  
Don Butler  
Arlan Biere  
Gregory Boschec (Gary's twin brother)  
Ben Herzberg  
Jean Paul  
Becky Keuter

*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.*



Note from Pastor Dan Mixdorf:

A big thanks and shoutout to my nephew Phillip Mixdorf for the great job he did in creating a wonderful wooden memento. This wood slab came from a tree on SALEM Lutheran Church - Creston, Iowa that blew down right before their 150th anniversary celebration. Phillip has a side business of making beautiful wood creations. Please check out his Facebook website Mixdorf Creations or you can email him at [MixdorfCreations@gmail.com](mailto:MixdorfCreations@gmail.com).



### 4th of July Fun Facts



Coney Island, New York, hosts a famous, televised hot-dog-eating contest every year on July 4th.

The Star Spangled Banner became the United States' national anthem in 1931.

There are more than 314 million people living in the United States today, but there were just 2.5 million in 1776.

There have been 27 versions of the U.S. flag.

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# Annual Church Sale



Please mark your calendars for the Annual Rummage, Bake Sale and Luncheon to be held on Saturday, July 29th from 8:00 am—2:00 pm.

Lunch with Sloppy joes, Chips and Pie will be served along with Coffee and Cinnamon Rolls.

As with our previous sale, all merchandise will be sold for a “Free-will offering.” Therefore, no clothing or household items will need to be priced.

(Bake sale and Lunch items are the exception, and will still be individually priced.)

Donations of Household Items and Clothing, may be brought to church basement in the northwest classroom. Formal drop-off hours will begin the week of the sale.

Sign up sheets for workers will be in the Narthex for the various duties that make the sale come together.

Proceeds from the sale go to many worthwhile charities, identified by Salem’s WELCA members to share God’s love with others. Please call Sandi Sickels if you have any questions, 641-344-4573.

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This fall, we will be having an in-kind gathering of school supplies which will be used to fill school kits for Lutheran World Relief. During the months of July and August, Wal-Mart, Target, Dollar General, etc. have good sales on school supplies. Although we don’t assemble them until September and October, the best time to purchase these items is July and August.

## **SCHOOL KITS**

Each school kit includes:

- ◇ Four 70 sheet full sized notebooks-wide or college ruled paper;  
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.



# LET'S READ THE BIBLE TOGETHER IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER



1st	Obadiah, Psalm 82-83	8th	2King 15, 2Chronicles 26	16th	Isaiah 13-17
2nd	2King 1-4	9th	Isaiah 1-4	17th	Isaiah 18-22
3rd	2King 5-8	10th	Isaiah 5-8	18th	Isaiah 23-27
4th	2King 9-11	11th	Amos 1-5	19th	2Kings 18:1-8, 2Chronicles 29-31, Psalm 48
5th	2King 12-13, 2Chronicles 24	12th	Amos 6-9	20th	Hosea 1-7
6th	2King 14, 2Chronicles 25	13th	2Chronicles 27, Isaiah 9-12	21st	Hosea 8-14
7th	Jonah	14th	Micah 1-7	22nd	Isaiah 28-30
		15th	2Chronicles 28, 2King 16-17	23rd	Isaiah 31-34
				24th	Isaiah 35-36
				25th	Isaiah 37-39, Psalm 76
				26th	Isaiah 40-43
				27th	Isaiah 44-48
				28th	2King 18:9-19:19:37, Psalm 46, 80 & 135
				29th	Isaiah 49-53
				30th	Isaiah 54-58
				31st	Isaiah 59-63



Russ Wachter	07/01	Debra Pantini	07/12
Barret Lane	07/03	Jaimie Stofferahn	07/14
Gabriel Stofferahn	07/05	Brynn Buck	07/15
Zachary Stofferahn	07/05	William Kunert	07/21
Gavin Sickels	07/07	Jan Eilers	07/27
Scott Abildtrup	07/09	Sandi Sickels	07/27
Jean Western	07/10		

Elaine & O.J. Fargo	4th
Jerry & Sherri Nissen	4th
Bill & Barb Bjorn	15th
Larry & Claudia Peppers	15th
Bill & Carol Ott	28th
Todd & Suzie Stofferahn	31st



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Pastor Evan will be on vacation June 27th—July 4h</p>						
2 10am Worship	3 Office Closed	4 Office Closed 	5	6	7 Brenda Working	8
9 10am Worship and Communion	10 Office Closed	11	12	13 Miriam Circle 6:30 pm	14 Office Closed	15
16 10am Worship  Help with Creston Food Pantry	17 Office Closed	18	19	20 Council Mtg. 5:30 pm	21 Office Closed	22
23 10am Worship and Communion	24 Office Closed	25	26	27	28 Office Closed	29 <b>CHURCH SALE</b> <b>8-2PM</b>
30 10am Worship	31 Office Closed	<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>				

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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