

Salem Lutheran Church

All Are Welcome!



Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

We are in a holy month; I think the holiest month of the entire year. Because everything we do this March is to prepare for the very last day of the month: Easter Sunday. In the days ahead we will continue to walk through Lent, Holy Week, and finally celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ. I invite you to intentionally keep your heart and mind on the holiness of every day. Keep strong in any Lenten practice of your choice, be it fasting, prayer, solitude, service, or generosity.

In addition, join us in community for our special services this season. We continue our Lenten Wednesday services at 6:00pm exploring the question, “What can we learn from the Early Church?” Also, on March 17th, Salem will be hosting the evening ecumenical service. “Ecumenical” is a word that describes when churches of different denominations work together. It is truly a beautiful sight to see when Christians of all types, even with our differences, gather to worship in one space to hear the one gospel of our one Lord, Jesus. During the service on the 17th, Father Patrick Amedeka, the local Catholic priest, will preach for us. May the holiness of this month shape and form us. By the closing of the month, may we be ready to witness to the resurrection, in which we find hope.

In God’s peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



Salem Lutheran Church

February 15th, 2024 Minutes

President: Tim Kinyon

Treasurer: Mike Linch

V. President: Gary Boschee

Secretary: Sherri Nissen

Raquel Linch

Sandi Sickels

Deb Pantini

Chris Lane

Jewel Baseley

CHURCH COUNCIL minutes

Feb. 15, 2024 5:30 Meeting

Devotions by Pastor & Council members

The meeting was called to order by President, Tim Kenyon with the following members in attendance: Gary Boschee, Mike Linch, Raquel Linch, Pastor Evan, Deb Pantini, and Sandi Sickels. Chris Lane, Jewel Baseley, Sherri Nissen, were absent.

Old Business:

M/S/C by Raquel Linch & Gary Boschee to add the old business items to the regular business items

January minutes: M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Deb Pantini to approve

Treasurers Report:

General Checking	\$2633.38
Replacement Checking	\$13,059.11
Memorial Checking	\$3,332.44
Special	\$4,696.31
All bills are paid	
Contributions	\$10,986
Expenses	\$12,265
Shortfall	\$1,279

M/S/C by Sandi Sickels and Pastor Evan to approve the treasurer's report

Pastor's report:

SWCC Bible Study is starting this next week

Bar side Chats at Hot Air Brewery March 10 – topic on Easter Pastor Evan leading

Graffiti and stickers on the Longer Table: Nissen's have cleaned this and law enforcement has been involved

Office Computer Update: it's in and running and Brenda is enjoying it. Information 2022 or older is saved on an external hard drive. Information 2023 to present is on the new computer.

Toilet Repair Update: AJ will replace with a commercial toilet – no estimate yet

Message board banners – **table**

New Business:

March Benevolence: M/S/C by Mike Linch and Deb Pantini to go to Meals of the Heartland \$495

Eastern and Lenten Offering: M/S/C by Mike Linch and Deb Pantini to go to Meals of the Heartland

Thermostats in the sanctuary and fellowship hall to replace with online enabled ones – **table**

AED/CPR training – Pastor will talk to Zac Woods for a date

First aid kits – a new one is needed for the kitchen and add one for the basement Mike will purchase

M/S/C by Gary Boschee & Pastor Evan

Committee Reports:

Christian Education:

Church Property:

Outreach Ministry: will be serving the Lenten meal March 17, and help with Meals of the Heartland April 24.
Appalachian Fundraiser Meal Feb. 25.

Worship & Music:

Finance:

Memorial Committee:

Stewardship:

Endowment: accounting is up to date and will meet to discuss the final figures for the year

Mutual Ministry:

Other:

The Executive committee will meet March 14 at 5:30

The next council meeting will be March 21, 2024, at 5:30 pm. Opening devotions will be led by Pastor

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

Sherri Nissen, Recording Secretary

Easter is a season of joy and hope, but it is also a reminder of God's love. In between the fun springtime activities like decorating Easter eggs, preparing a delicious Easter dinner, and searching for the best Easter basket ideas, spend time reflecting on the sacrifice Jesus made.

Bible Verses About Resurrection

John 11:25-26: "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"

1 Peter 1:3: "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Corinthians 15:21: "For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man."

Philippians 3:10: "I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death."

Luke 24:6-7: "He is not here; he has risen!"

1 Corinthians 6:14: "And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power."

Romans 8:34: "Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

Romans 6:8-11: "The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

Luke 24:6-7: "Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"

Romans 6:8-11: "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him."

Acts 3:15: "You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead."

Pastor Report for February, 2023

Visitations: 8 visitations.

Meetings:

Executive Committee Meeting on 2/8

Worship & Music Committee meeting on 2/25

January Council Meeting on 2/1

February Council Meeting on 2/15

Synod and Ecumenical Work:

Met weekly with ELCA conference pastors on Tuesdays over Zoom

Union County Ministerial Alliance meeting on 2/21

Christian Education:

Led Adult Sunday School weekly at 9:00am. We are started a new series on Eschatology – talking about heaven, hell, resurrection, and the end of time. Community Presence

Salem Community:

Attended Salem choir practice on 2/7, 2/21, 2/28

Started a weekly Thursday afternoon Bible Study with SWCC students on campus.

Led the Family Faith Prayer night and provided food on 2/28

Special Services

Led Salem's Ash Wednesday Service on 2/14

Led Wednesday Lenten services on 2/21 and 2/28



Union County Ministerial Alliance Ecumenical Lenten Services—5 pm each Sunday

(*Guest Speaker*)

Mar 3rd , United Methodist– Pastor Evan McVann *

Mar 10th, First Christian– Pastor Mary O'Riley *

Mar 17th, Salem Lutheran– Fr. Patrick Amedeka * “Wish Fr. Patick Happy Birthday!”

Mar 24th, First Presbyterian– Pastor Tony Thurston *

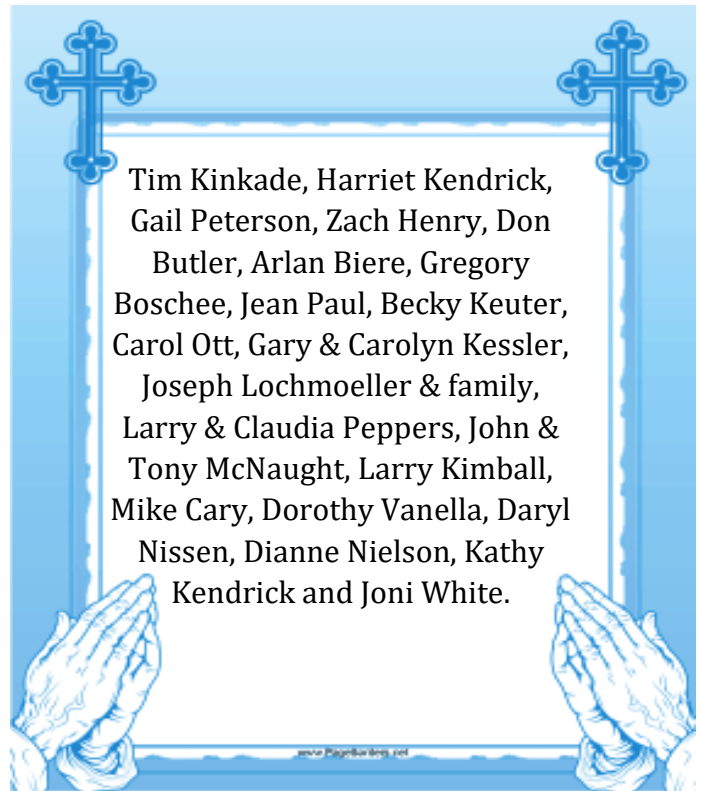
Mar 29 (Good Friday), Holy Spirit Catholic– Pastor Sheila Sutton or Pastor Jim McIntosh *

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.

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.



Easter lilies signify the true meaning of the holiday.

For one, the flower's white color can represent the purity and innocence of Jesus—with white usually representing such a message. The transition from dormant bulbs to delicate flowers brings to mind hope and rebirth, two important themes of the Easter celebration. There are also parallels between the lily's blooming process and Christ's resurrection.

Americans consume over 16 million jelly beans during Easter.

That's enough jelly beans to circle the globe not once, not twice, but three times — or to fill a plastic egg the size of a nine-story building. First introduced as an Easter treat in the 1930s, we can't imagine this day without them.

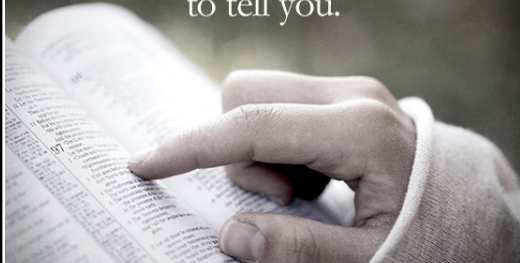
Good Friday isn't a recognized holiday in every state.

Those who celebrate know that Good Friday is a day for remembering the day Jesus was crucified. Taking place just two days before Easter Sunday, only a total of 12 states recognize it as an official holiday—since it's not federally declared.

Pretzels used to be linked to Easter.

Say what? The connection between pretzels and Easter has to do with the way a pretzel is twisted—it symbolizes arms being crossed when in prayer.

Reduce your stress level by taking time to unplug from the world, open your Bible, and listen to what God has to tell you.



1st	Numbers 14-15; Psalm 90
2nd	Numbers 16-17
3rd	Numbers 18-20
4th	Numbers 21-22
5th	Numbers 23-25
6th	Numbers 26-27
7th	Numbers 28-30
8th	Numbers 31-32
9th	Numbers 33-34
10th	Numbers 35-36
11th	Deuteronomy 1-2
12th	Deuteronomy 3-4
13th	Deuteronomy 5-7
14th	Deuteronomy 8-10
15th	Deuteronomy 11-13
16th	Deuteronomy 14-19
17th	Deuteronomy 17-20
18th	Deuteronomy 21-23
19th	Deuteronomy 24-27
20th	Deuteronomy 28-29
21st	Deuteronomy 30-31
22nd	Deuteronomy 32-34; Psalm 91
23rd	Joshua 1-4
24th	Joshua 5-8
25th	Joshua 9-11
26th	Joshua 12-15
27th	Joshua 16-18
28th	Joshua 19-21
29th	Joshua 22-24
30th	Jude 1-2
31st	Jude 3-5




Marilyn Engelson	1st	Suzie Stofferahn	16th
Ryan Cook	3rd	Gail Peterson	19th
David Abildtrup	9th	Jerry Nissen	21st
Andrew Hitz	10th	Peggy Cass	23rd
Linda Mahn	14th	Sherri Boschee	26th



Miriam Circle



Miriam Circle will meet on Thursday, March 7th
6:30 pm at Salem

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Brenda Off	2
3 10am Worship	4 <i>Offices Closed</i>	5 1:30 Quilting	6 6:00 pm Lentin Service	7 Miriam Circle 6:30 @ Salem	8 Brenda Off	9
10 10am Worship Communion 	11 <i>Offices Closed</i>	12 1:30 Quilting	13 6:00 pm Lentin Service	14 5:30 Executive Council Meeting	15 Brenda Off	16
17 10am Worship & Communion Ecumenical Service 5pm 	18 <i>Offices Closed</i>	19 1:30 Quilting Brenda Off	20 6:00 pm Lentin Service Brenda Off	21 Council Meeting 5:30 pm Brenda Off	22 Brenda Off	23 Brenda Work
24 Palm Sunday 10am Worship	25 <i>Offices Closed</i>	26 1:30 Quilting	27	28 Holy Thurs- day	29 Good Friday Brenda Off	30
31 EASTER Sunday Communion						

Pastor Evan is out of the Office every Tuesday Morning
for Text Study with our ELCA conference pastors.



**Daylight Savings Time
begins Sunday, March 10
Remember to set your
clocks forward**

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

602 W Townline
Creston, Iowa 50801



Pastor Evan McVann
pastorevan@salemluth.net

Facebook:
SALEM Lutheran Church-Creston, Iowa

Brenda Strauss
office@salemluth.net

Website:
office@salemluth.net

