

Salem Lutheran Church



FOLLOWING JESUS,
SHARING COMPASSION,
COVERED BY GRACE



Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

I hope and pray you are all staying cool as we just survived a very hot week here in Creston! Speaking of prayer, I have been thinking a lot about prayer lately. As a church we have been praying for many of our own members and rejoicing when we have seen our prayers answered. In Union County there has also been many prayers said on behalf of those who are mourning the loss of Ella and Halsie, two SWCC students who suddenly passed in a tragic accident recently. Prayer is needed and powerful. Prayer is powerful even when it seems we haven't received an answer from God. In prayer, we are witnessing to the hope we have in Jesus Christ. In all circumstances, we continue to pray for ourselves and others (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18).

Sometimes in the business of the world that surrounds us, we can easily forget to pray. We can forget to carve out a time to intentionally be present with the God who promises to always be with us. In the chaos of the world, we can easily let fear and our anxieties guide us rather than God's kingdom path for us. This month, we have a wonderful opportunity to pray as a congregation. Starting on August 16th, Dennis Nardy has set up a Pizza and Prayer night! This will be an intentional time to gather monthly at Salem to pray and be in fellowship with one another. As a community in Christ, I believe we will experience the power of prayer. As Paul teaches us...

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

In God's peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



President: Mike Linch **Treasurer:** Randy Cook
V. President: D. Abildtrup **Secretary:** Sherri Nissen
Phyllis Keuter, Claudia Peppers, Chuck Taylor,
Gary Boschee, Sandi Sickels, Raquel Linch, Andy Hitz,
Chris Lane, Deb Pantini, and Emma Pantini

CHURCH COUNCIL minutes
July 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: Jewel Baseley, Gary Boschee, Mike Linch, Raquel Linch, Sherri Nissen, and Deb Pantini. Sandi Sickels, Chris Lane, and Pastor Evan were absent.

Approve the agenda: M/S/C by Deb Pantini and Jewel Baseley with the following amendments: under new business: E. Executive meeting report, F. Thermostats, and G. Council members.

Approve June council minutes: M/S/C by Mike Linch and Gary Boschee with the following change: Gary Boschee was not in attendance at the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report by Mike Linch

Pastor's housing allotment from endowment of \$4,800 has been paid/caught up from eight quarters. (\$600 per quarter)

Expenses continue to exceed Contributions per month by approximately \$2,000. Questions of how to communicate this with the congregation. Consensus with the council is to put regular updates in the bulletin.

All bills are paid and current. Expenses have increased.

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

Old Business:

Electronic Offering: "Tithing through ELCA" only is free, but if we add other options/apps to use there is a cost. Further information is needed.

Venmo as an option we would need to have an old cell phone and number to use to activate google voice free of charge.

Christmas/Holiday Survey: Council members discussed information to include, paper ballots on colored paper will be placed in the weekly bulletins during September. One vote per member that can be placed in the offering plate. Ballots will be counted/discussed at the October council meeting.

New Business:

Election of Officers: M/S/C by Jewel Basely and Raquel Linch

Tim Kenyon -President, Gary Boschee – Vice President, Mike Linch – Treasurer, and Sherri Nissen as Secretary. Also adding Deb Pantini with the above officers as a council member to sign checks.

August Benevolence: M/S/C by Gary Boschee and Sherri Nissen to give to the Creston Area Food Pantry.

150th T-shirts: There are some left. Consensus from council is to place them on a table with free will offering, if any are left at the time of the garage sale they will be put on the sale.

Yearbook: the discussion came up due to publication being done after the annual meeting, but our church year with new officers starts in June. Earlier publication has old information so in the future the yearbook will be published in July. This year's updates will be on the member website.

Executive meeting report: The committee met with Pastor Evan July 19 to touch base on somethings.

Items discussed include Pastor posting/keeping office hours. These will be placed on the south door, his office door, and in the newsletter. Visits/contacts with members outside of church.

Advance notice of absences. Pastor would possibly like to do a book study with council members, and he welcomes anyone to pray with him/for him at any time. Overall, it was a positive meeting.

Thermostat setting/update: Brenda has noticed a difference in peak usage on certain days. Do we keep sanctuary doors open or closed – what is best for the organ. Tim will touch base with Elaine/Jodi. We may need to investigate new thermostats due to age and some that will measure humidity (purpose of keeping the organ at correct temp.)

Council Members: Our by-laws state we should have 11 and can have up to 12. We currently have 9. Please let a council member know if you are interested.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education:

Church Property: Trenching for the electrical sign and hook up is complete, as well as glazing of the upstairs windows. We will get updated pricing for the playground and begin that work, as it has had little repair since it was built. For safety reasons it needs to be rebuilt. Work on the sanctuary ceiling and lighting will begin in August and will take up to 2 weeks. Volunteers will be needed to move pews, etc at that time. Church services will need to be held in the fellowship hall or outside at that time.

Outreach Ministry: The Long Table Food Shelf is up has been well received by the community. The First Christian Church will participate now that they understand the process. We had six members help at the Food Pantry on July 16. A sign-up sheet for needed items has been placed in the Narthex as we will be serving One in Christ meals August 7th and 8th

Worship & Music: have been planning services through September. Elaine will be absent with Jodi covering all but one service while she is gone. Julie Weishaar-Mullin will play at that time.

Finance: no meeting

Memorial Committee:

Stewardship: no meeting

Endowment: no meeting

Mutual Ministry: no meeting

Other:

The next meeting will be August 17, 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, Secretary

Best foods to eat in hot weather....tomatoes, cantaloupe, peppers, broccoli, cucumbers, celery, leafy greens, strawberries, meatballs and spaghetti, light vegetable soup, grilled chicken with tomatoes and corn, tuna salad sandwiches, watermelon and eggs.

Visitations: 4 visitations.

Meetings:

Worship & Music meeting on 7/13 and 7/18.

Outreach meeting on 7/18.

Executive Council Meeting on 7/19.

Synod and Ecumenical Work:

Attended First Call education at the Synod office on 7/27.

Christian Education:

Led Adult Sunday School weekly at 9:00am. We are currently studying the Apostles Creed. Everyone is welcome to join!

Community Presence

Attended Union County Food Coalition meeting on 7/6.

Provided pastoral care at the SWCC vigil for Ella and Halsie on 7/25.

Special Services

Led worship in Creston assisted living and nursing homes on 7/7.



*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

Linda Huffman

Larry & Claudia Peppers

John & Tony McNaught

Larry Kimball

Mike Cary

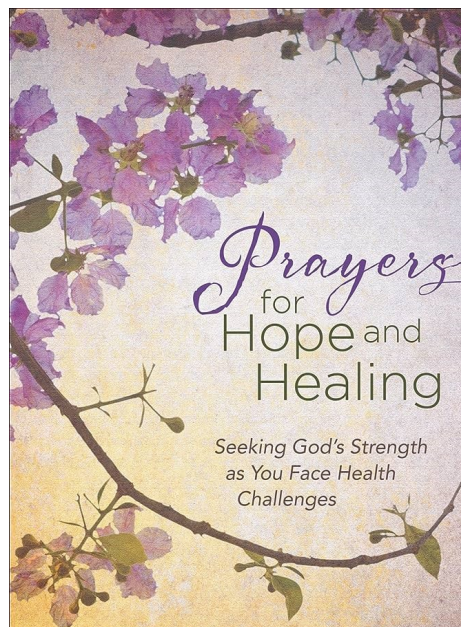
Dorothy Vanella

Jean Paul

Becky Keuter

Brooklyn Kate Sickels

Family of Chuck Tielbur—(Brenda
Sedlmayr's father)



Tim Kinkade

Harriet Kendrick

Gail Peterson

Zach Henry

Don Butler

Arlan Biere

Gregory Bosch (Gary's twin brother)

Dianne Nielson

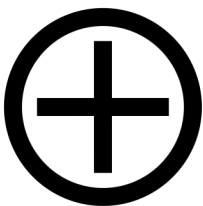
Daryl Nissen

Kathy Kendrick

Ben Herzberg

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.



Pizza & Prayer—August 16, 2023 6 pm

Pizza & drinks provided. Sign up sheet in Narthex.

Any questions contact Dennis Nardy 641-202-1464



Outreach at the food pantry on July 16th.

Roxy & Gail Peterson, Chuck & Nancy
Taylor, Sherri Nissen, Barb Kenyon,
and Joyce Anderson.



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





Women of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

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, remove packaging
- ◇ One sturdy comb (no picks or fine toothed combs) remove packaging

BABY CARE KITS

- ◇ • 2 swaddling blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel 36" to 52" square
- ◇ 2 pairs of socks
- ◇ • 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or
 - ◇ include a baby cap
- ◇ • 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- ◇ • 2 or 3 bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping



Bringing a baby into the world can be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. Keeping a new baby healthy, clean, and comfortable can take a lot of resources. The items included in a Baby Care Kit provide the basics a family needs to care for their new members the way they hope to. Worry will always be present for all parents, but having some essentials allows them to enjoy and get to know their little ones and introduce them with pride to the world.



Todd Stofferahn	3rd	Roberta Henry	18th
Pastor Evan	2nd	Joan Lienemann	20th
Chuck Taylor	4th	Josh Henry	21st
Joni Cook	5th	Jake Hitz	21st
Denton Lane	7th	Sydney Pantini	22nd
Brant Abildtrup	11th	Roxanne Brown	25th
Dylan Linch	13th	Sam Soda	26th
Chad Cass	16th	Spencer Lane	30th
Cash Abildtrup	17th	Zachary Sedlmayr	31st
Kerry Grumley	18th		

Thad & Sandi Sickels	1st
Tim & Barb Kenyon	2nd
Dave & Gwen Buck	5th
Dick & Marilyn Engelson	9th
Toney & Peggy Cass	11th
Dennis & Becky Nardy	12th
Andy & Jodi Hitz	23rd
Scott & Nichole Abildtrup	28th



1st	Isaiah 64-66
2nd	2King 20-21
3rd	2Chronicles 32-33
4th	Nahum 1-3
5th	2King 22-23; 2Chronicles 34-35
6th	Zephaniah
7th	Jeremiah 1-3
8th	Jeremiah 4-6
9th	Jeremiah 7-9
10th	Jeremiah 10-13
11th	Jeremiah 14-17
12th	Jeremiah 18-22
13th	Jeremiah 23-25
14th	Jeremiah 26-29
15th	Jeremiah 30-31
16th	Jeremiah 32-34

17th	Jeremiah 35-37
18th	Jeremiah 38-40; Psalms 74 & 79
19th	2King 24-25; 2Chronicles 36
20th	Habakkuk
21st	Jeremiah 41-45
22nd	Jeremiah 46-48
23rd	Jeremiah 49-50
24th	Jeremiah 51-52
25th	Lamentation 1:1-3:36
26th	Lamentations 3:37-5:22
27th	Ezekiel 1-4
28th	Ezekiel 5-8
29th	Ezekiel 9-12
30th	Ezekiel 13-15
31st	Ezekiel 16-17

Miriam Circle



August 3, 2023—Miriam Circle 6:30 pm

Location: Becky Nardy's home, 509 Grand Ave

Lesson will be from the July/August edition of Gather Magazine

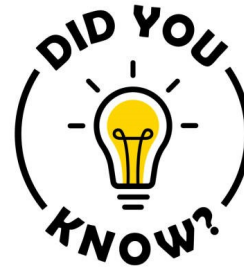
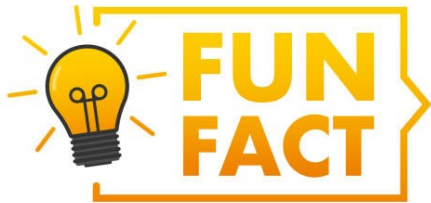
ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

UPCOMING Events

August 7-8, 2023—Serve One In Christ Meals,
Methodist Church

August 16, 2023 Pizza & Prayer, 6:30 pm.
Pizza and drinks will be provided

August 17, 2023—Council Meeting, 5:30



- Australia is wider than the moon. The moon sits at 3,400 kilometers (2,113 miles) in diameter, while Australia's diameter from east to west is almost 4,000 km (2,485 miles).
- Headphones can increase the bacteria in your ears—wearing them for just an hour could increase the bacteria in your ears by 700 times! (Ew!)
- Scotland chose the unicorn as its national animal. In Celtic mythology, the fictional creature is connected with both chivalry and dominance as well as purity and innocence.
- Avocados are not vegetables, they are fruits because they are single-seeded berries.
- You probably eat bugs in your sleep. There's a good chance that we will swallow 10 spiders and 70 types of insects (or more) in the course of our lifetimes. This is one of the weird fun facts we could do without. Yuck!
- The Eiffel Tower gets taller in the summer. When the iron heats up, the tower can be up to 15 centimeters (6 inches) taller due to thermal expansion.
- Human teeth are the only part of the body that can't heal themselves. Teeth are not made of live tissue and are coated in enamel, which can't spontaneously regenerate.
- Here's one of the most useful weird fun facts! If you've ever felt like you think better in a warm shower, you're probably right! The warm water increases the flow of dopamine and makes us more creative.
- Only four words in the English language end in "dous." Horrendous, tremendous, hazardous, and stupendous.

Sunday

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						
	Office Closed	1	2	3 Miriam Circle 6:30 pm Becky Nardy's home	4 Office Closed	5
6 10am Worship & Communion	7 Office Closed	8	9	10	11 Office Closed	12
	Serve One in Christ Meals					
13 10am Worship	14 Office Closed	15	16 Pizza & Prayer 6pm	17 5:30 Council Mtg.	18 Office Closed	19
20 10am Worship & Communion	21 Office Closed	22	23	24	25 Office Closed	26
27 10am Worship	28 Office Closed	29 Brenda on Vacation until September 5th	30	31		



SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

602 W Townline
Creston, Iowa 50801

Pastor: Evan McVann

414-412-6467

pastorevan@salemluth.net

Office: Brenda Strauss

office@salemluth.net

Facebook:

SALEM Lutheran
Church-Creston, Iowa

Website: salemluth.net

YouTube

Salem Lutheran Church Creston IA

