

Salem
Lutheran
Church



All Are
Welcome
Here


Greetings Salem Lutheran Church,

With the end of the month of March, we also mark the closing of the season of Lent. But before we head straight into the season of Easter, I want to say thank you. Thank you for walking with me through the “Five Gifts we receive in Baptism” – our theme we explored each week. For all who joined us for our Wednesday Lenten services, thank you for your curiosity, openness, and vulnerability as we weekly reflected and discussed each gift. The good news is that the conversations don’t have to end! If you would like to continue the conversation or if you would like to newly join the conversation, please let me know. I plan on putting together some type of small groups to continue the conversation. I believe talking about how we our Living our Baptism is some of the most holy, lifegiving conversations we can have in the church. In the meantime, I would like to share this prayer that highlights each gift:

LIVING OUR **BAPTISM** ... *Five gifts of discipleship*

Gracious God,
Send your Holy Spirit. Awaken in me the gifts of discipleship:

- + to live among God’s faithful people;
- + to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s Supper;
- + to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;
- + to serve all people, following the example of Jesus;
- + to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Amen.

 **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**
God’s work. Our hands.
ELCA.org/faithpractices

Also, this month, please pray for Gary Boschee and I as we travel to La Mars to participate in the Western Iowa Synod Assembly. Additionally, look out for more information about this year’s upcoming leadership retreat and a new Lutheranism 101 class! All will be invited to participate!

Christ is Risen, church! Rejoice! Happy Easter.

In God’s peace,

Pr. Evan McVann



Salem Lutheran Church

March 16th, 2023 Minutes

President: Tim Kenyon

Treasurer: Randy Cook

V. President: Mike Linch

Secretary: Sherri Nissen

Chuck Taylor

Gary Boschee

Gary Boschee

Deb Pantini

Jewel Baseley

Claudia Peppers

Raquel Linch

Sandi Sickles

Chris Lane

Devotions by Pastor and council

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

Approve the agenda: M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Claudia Peppers with the amendment of new business E. Worship & Music Substitute Organist.

Approve February council minutes: M/S/C by Claudia Peppers and Chuck Taylor.

Treasurer's Report by Tim Kenyon

All bills are paid and everything is current.

Contributions are behind in giving at this time.

Old Business:

Sound Barriers Fellowship Hall – Dorothy McNaught was not in attendance after three invitations to attend. Based on input from the Property Committee, Council considered the physical limitations of our building, the direct and indirect costs, as well as the general aesthetics. The Council also noted that this was consistent with notes from several previous reviews by the council.

M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Chuck Taylor **no further discussion or action will be taken.**

Media Com/Windstream Quotes: Table until April meeting

Insurance Quote Cuck Taylor: **Table to April.** Current property insurance expires May 1. There is a meeting with an agent April 14.

New Business:

April Benevolence: M/S/C by Gary Boschee and Chuck Taylor to go to Synod

Fellowship Hall Usage: M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Chuck Taylor for a wedding shower April 22.

Easter and Lenten Offering: M/S/C by Pastor Evan and Claudia Peppers to go to the funding of financial support for seminary students.

Linda Hultquist beneficiary: Motion/Second/Carried by Gary Boschee and Chuck Taylor to authorize President and Registered Agent Tim Kenyon to execute documents on behalf of Salem Lutheran Church, Creston, IA regarding Linda Hultquist Estate.

Worship and Music Substitute: M/S/C by Raquel Linch and Deb Pantini to authorize Worship and Music committee to contact Julie Weisheur Mullen and others for interest in substituting.

Committee Reports: None

Christian Education: no meeting

Church Property: Discussed insurance (see C – old business), Projects to address: glazing & painting windows, Repair the electrical service to the outside sign & check kitchen wiring. M/S/C by Chuck Taylor and Tim Kenyon to get dirt work/seeding done by Randy McIlravey for up to \$2,000.00. Christmas Tree – invite Arlan Biere to the next council meeting.

Outreach Ministry: Will help with the Food Pantry Mar. 19 and host the Lenten supper Mar. 26. Request for a small Food Shelf be made by property committee for an estimated cost of \$450-\$500 to be placed on the east curb side of the property. Stocking of the shelf will be in cooperation with the First Christian Church and the Creston Food Coalition. Money to come from Linda Hultquist Memorial plus kitchen items/utensils/electric work. M/S/C by Gary Boschee and Pastor Evan.

Worship & Music: see new business E above, as well as they have continued to plan the Lenten and Easter services.

Finance: no meeting

Memorial Committee: no meeting, discussed through phone conversations. We request the \$835.00 in Flossie Roberts memorial for youth be transferred to the playground fund to rebuild the playground. Ask for Linda Hultquist Memorial be used for the Food Shelf and kitchen electrical work as requested by Outreach, as well as \$300 for kitchen from Helen Herzberg's memorial for electrical. M/S/C by Gary Boschee and Pastor Evan.

Stewardship: no meeting

Endowment: no meeting

Mutual Ministry: no meeting

Other:

The next meeting will be April 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

Visitations: 4 visitations.

Meetings:

Worship & Music Committee meeting on 3/1, 3/16, 3/30

Council Meeting on 3/16

Outreach Committee meeting on 2/21



Synod and Ecumenical Work:

Met weekly with ELCA conference pastors on Tuesdays over Zoom

UCMA meeting on 3/15

Represented the UCMA at the groundbreaking of the newest church in Creston (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints) on 3/25

Christian Education:

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

Community Presence

Participated on Zoom panel of people who stutter on 3/11. Hosted by the National Stuttering Association, I shared my journey as a pastor who stutters.

Attended Creston Human Rights Coalition meeting on 3/19.

Special Services

Led our Salem Wednesday Lenten services every week.

Led the nursing and assisted living home worship services



FROM BRENDA

There are many things that happen around spring such as taxes, and the end of the school term, so it's not surprising that you can blink and it's gone. Stopping to smell the flowers that have started to grow again is usually something that is last on the list.

Whether you live in a small apartment or the countryside, flowers and plants can easily transform your home and make it feel welcoming. Spring is one of the most colorful times of the year when it comes to flowers so make the most of it. Look at planting some new plants in your garden or get some house plants. Treat your home to a sweet spring arrangement of spring's prettiest plants. You will be surprised how much it helps brighten your home.

Some of the most beautiful things about spring are the flowering trees, new life, and flowers blooming. Spring brings a sweet mix of bright colors. So make sure you make the most of it and spend some time in nature. Try visiting a botanical garden or nature reserve to admire the beauty that spring has to offer.

Christians often describe the season of Lent as a journey of sorts, with its final destination being Holy Week. The events of Holy Week recount the so-called ‘passion narratives’ in the New Testament Gospels that relate to the suffering (*passio* in Latin), death and burial of Jesus Christ.

Thus, Holy Week marks the last week of the Christian season of Lent – the week leading up to Easter.

Palm Sunday – entrance into Jerusalem

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, when Christians commemorate Jesus’ ‘triumphal entry’ into Jerusalem where the Gospels tell us he was greeted with crowds waving palm branches and crying ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ (Mark 11:9-10).

(Ironically, these same voices that greet Jesus as Messiah and King will be the same voices that shout ‘Crucify him!’ just a few short days later on Good Friday.)

Traditionally, worshipping Christians will receive palm branches or palm crosses on Palm Sunday as a tangible sign of Jesus’ ‘triumphal entry’ into Jerusalem. And in some churches, Palm Sunday is also known as the Sunday of the Passion, when one of the Gospel passion narratives is read aloud during the liturgy.

Holy Wednesday – into the darkness

Holy Week continues in many Christian traditions on ‘Holy Wednesday’ (known as ‘Spy Wednesday’ in earlier times). Holy Wednesday is often marked with a service of Tenebrae (Latin for ‘darkness’ or ‘shadows’), with the hearing of appropriate psalms and other readings while candles on a candelabrum (the ‘Tenebrae hearse’) are gradually extinguished, creating the sense of growing darkness.

This darkness symbolises the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples, and anticipates the anguish and tragedy of Good Friday later on in Holy Week.

What follows then are the ‘Triduum’ of Holy Week – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Maundy Thursday – the Last Supper

Maundy Thursday marks the Last Supper that Jesus shares with his disciples, his betrayal by his disciple Judas Iscariot, and his arrest at the Garden of Gethsemane.

Often Maundy Thursday services will include an act of foot washing, which commemorates Jesus washing the feet of his disciples as an act of service on the night of his arrest (John 13:1-20).

Maundy Thursday reminds participants of the ‘new commandment’ (*mandatum* in Latin) that Jesus gave his disciples to love one another as he has loved them (John 15:12) – a love that is most readily seen in Jesus willingly giving up his life on the cross on Good Friday.

Good Friday – Jesus’ agony on the cross

Good Friday commemorates Jesus’ trial before Pontius Pilate, his sentence of death, his torture, and his crucifixion and burial. It is called ‘good’ Friday in the obsolete sense of the word ‘good’ – connoting something ‘holy’ or ‘pious’ (‘Holy Friday’), which is striking as ‘Good Friday’ is the most somber day for Christians, when the agony, death and burial of Jesus is remembered.

For many Christians, Good Friday is a day of fasting, with the faithful attending a church service where they will meditate on and venerate the cross of Christ.

Holy Saturday – visiting the tomb of Jesus

The Triduum of Holy Week concludes with Holy Saturday, often with a late-night Easter Vigil service, which is really two parts.

First, a liturgy that recalls the vigil, the ‘keeping watch’ of Jesus’ female disciples at the tomb of Jesus, which begins in darkness where a new paschal or Easter fire is kindled. This, then, is followed by the joyous celebration of the first Eucharist of Easter, which will often include the baptism of new converts and the renewal of baptismal vows by the faithful.

Holy Week moves from the enthusiastic shouts of ‘Hosanna’ to the somberness of Holy Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, to the horrors of the agony and death of Jesus on Good Friday, to the joyous celebration of the first Eucharist of Easter.

It is an emotional week for Christians, but one that anticipates the hope and glory of the resurrection of Christ at Easter, which is at the heart of the Christian Gospel and the centre of Christian faith and worship.



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.

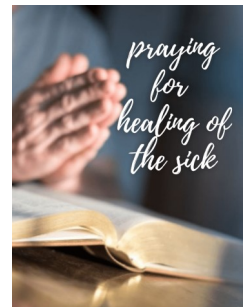
Joseph Lochmoeller & family, Joanna Osler, Suzanne Lees, Jami Gurley Alyssa Dea, Linda Huffman, Cliff Olsen, Larry & Claudia Peppers, Tim Kinkade, Josh, Hannah & Harriet Kendrick, Gail Peterson, Zach Henry, Don Butler, Arlan Biere, Gregory Boschee (Gary's twin brother), Harold & Patricia Nelson, Ben 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



MUPPET SHOW FUN WITH THE KIDS

Thank you to those that submitted these photos to share in the newsletter. If you have any photos for the Newsletter, please forward them to the office. Thank you!!



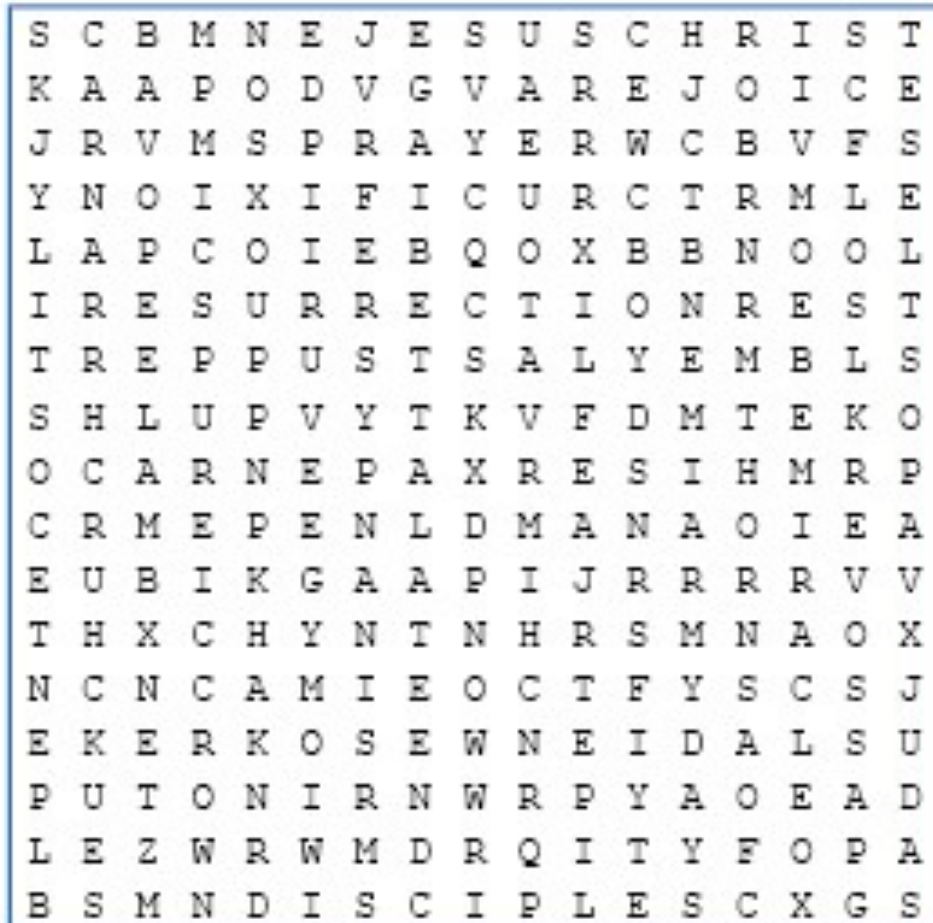
PRAYERS AROUND THE CROSS



Easter Story

WORD SEARCH

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



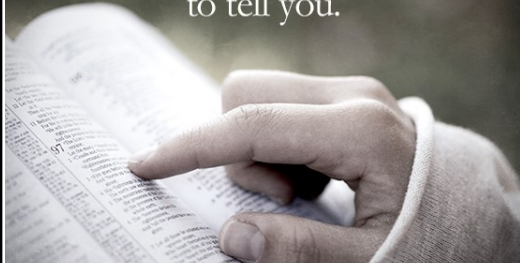
APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
JUDAS
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
PASSOVER
PENANCE
PENTECOST

PRAYER
REDEMPTION
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SAVIOR
SON
THORNS
TOMB



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	Judges 6-7
2nd	Judges 8-9
3rd	Judges 10-12
4th	Judges 13-15
5th	Judges 16-18
6th	Judges 19-21
7th	Ruth
8th	1Samuel 1-3
9th	1Samuel 4-8
10th	1Samuel 9-12
11th	1Samuel 13-14
12th	1Samuel 15-17
13th	1Samuel 18-20
	Psalm 11/59
14th	1Samuel 21-24
15th	Psalm 7/27/31/34-52
16th	Psalm 56/120/140-142
17th	1Samuel 25-27
18th	Psalm 17/35/54/63
19th	1Samuel 28-31/Psalm 18
20th	Psalm 121/123-125/128-130
21st	2Samuel 1-4
22nd	Psalm 6/8-10/14/16/19/21
23rd	1Chronicles 1-2
24th	Psalm 43-45/49/84-85/87
25th	1Chronicles 3-5
26th	Psalm 73/77-78
27th	1Chronicles 6
28th	Psalm 81/88/92-93
29th	1Chronicles 7-10
30th	Psalm 102-104



Justin Peppers	1st	Drew Buck	13th
Ryli & Kaci Abildtrup	4th	Dennis Nardy	17th
Barb Kenyon	4th	Linda Huffman	19th
Heather Peterson	6th	Kaylee Ott	23rd
LouAnn Snodgrass	6th	Jodi Hitz	26th
Emily Miller	7th	Lamona Bilderback	29th
Randy Cook	10th	Alex Kenyon	29th
Sara Bolinger	11th		



Miriam Circle



Miriam Circle will meet on Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall .

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  <i>Palm Sunday</i> 10am Worship & Communion	3 Pastor's Day Off	4 1:30 Quilting	5	6  MAUNDY THURSDAY <small>Last Supper of Jesus Christ with His disciples</small> 6pm Service W/Communion	7  GOOD FRIDAY 6pm Service Brenda's Day Off	8
9  Easter Sunday <small>HE IS RISEN</small> 10am Worship Communion	10 Pastor's Day Off Brenda in Office	11 1:30 Quilting Brenda in Office	12 Brenda in Office	13 6:00 Miriam Circle @ Salem 6 pm Brenda Off	14 Brenda Off	15
16 10 am Worship Communion WELCA Meeting after church	17 Pastor's Day Off Brenda Off	18 1:30 Quilting Brenda Off	19 Brenda in Office	20 Council Mtg 5:30 pm Brenda in Office	21  Pastor Evan attending Western Iowa Synod in Le Mars, IA Brenda in Office →	22
23 10am Worship Salem Women Mtg	24 Pastor's Day Off Brenda Off	25 1:30 Quilting Brenda in Office	26 Brenda in Office	27 Brenda in Office	28 Brenda Off	29
30 10am Worship						

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

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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