



# Salem Lutheran Church

We are all God's children reflecting His love

**December, 2023**

**Pastor**

Mary Fiel  
primaryfiel@gmail.com  
507.525.3909

**Secretary**

Wendy Dawn Bengtson  
Salemlutheranchurchdalbo@gmail.com

**Financial Secretary**

Cathy Koolmo  
slcdalbo@gmail.com

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**President - Suzanne Hulett**  
Fellowship & Discipleship

**Vice Pres - Keith Engstrom**  
Stewardship

**Secretary - Beverly Ramey**  
Fellowship & Discipleship

**Treasurer - Kristy Johnson**  
Appointed until 2024 election

**Education & Youth - Wendy Linder**

**Property - David Lundin**  
Jesse Johnson

**Worship & Music - Donovan Erickson**

**Youth - Brenna Johnson**

**Greetings!**

“IT’S TIIIIIME!” These two words rang out on November 1st in a video put out by singer Mariah Carey ushering in the holiday season. A running joke across the internet is that as soon as Halloween is over it is time for the Christmas songs to begin, and Mariah’s “All I Want for Christmas” will again start playing in every retail store for the next two months. As much as I admire Ms. Carey for her music career over all these years, I screamed back at my phone “NO IT’S NOT!”

It is a well-known fact that I am a huge music fan of all kinds, and I especially adore Christmas carols and hymns. However, I am of the mindset that not only Thanksgiving needs to have its holiday time, but that the season of Advent needs to have its due as well. A comment made over the years in this call is that people want to sing more Christmas hymns during the month of December. But because I am in charge of picking the hymns each year, I stick with the Advent hymns before December 24th, and I imagine I don’t win a lot of brownie points with that decision.

I was asked by the Worship and Music Committee at Siloa to try and incorporate more Christmas hymns throughout the month, and I will admit, I tried my hardest this year to do so. But I have to tell you, it is really hard for me to think about singing hymns referencing the baby Jesus on December 3rd. For goodness sake, the Virgin Mary wasn’t even in labor at that time! ;)

In all seriousness though, the season of Advent is similar to the season of Lent in that it is a period of waiting. It’s a season that helps prepare us for the big holiday. And we are not a society that likes to wait. We are impatient - and I know of a few people who already have their Christmas trees up. By no means am I shaming any Christmas lovers out there, but I encourage you to think about giving the Advent season some love as well.

The Bible Project describes Advent this way: “Advent means “arrival” and signifies the start of an event or the arrival of a person. In Christian communities around the world, Advent refers to a four-week season of remembering and celebrating the arrival of Jesus on Earth. It’s a time to reflect on the unexpected nature of Jesus’ humble birth and join in the anticipation of when he will come again to reunite Heaven and Earth once and for all.”

As we enter into Advent this year, I encourage you to reflect on the themes of the season: Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. Devote a week to each theme and see how it changes your waiting time until Christmas. What hope does the birth of Jesus bring to the world? How do you see peace in your lives? Where do you experience the love of Christ around you? And finally we can experience the joy of the Christmas season in its time.

For other Advent lovers like myself, there will be ONE Sunday morning worship held on Sunday the 24th before we switch to Christmas Eve services later in the day. Salem will host a normal Sunday morning worship at 10:30am that day to wrap up the Advent season and then we will transition to Christmas Eve at 4:00pm service at Siloa and 6:00pm service at Salem. And of course for those early birds on Christmas morning Julotta service will be held at 6:00am at Salem.

Please also consider attending the Blue Christmas service to be held on Thursday, December 21st at 7:00pm at Salem. This year it will actually land ON the winter solstice so it truly will be held on the longest night of the year. This service is suited for folks who are feeling a little “blue” around the holiday season whether that is due to grief, trauma, loneliness, or anything else going on in their lives that is hindering them from feeling the Christmas spirit.

All in all, this month is full of opportunities to prepare our hearts and minds for the arrival of the Christ Child. I look forward to worshipping with you this Advent and Christmas!

*Pr Mary*

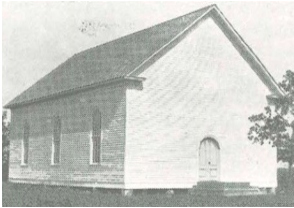
# Let's Talk!

## We lift up in prayer:

We hold up Tyler Johnson, Jan Elliott, Pam Peterson, Lisa Gardner, Lucille Asmund and Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in special prayers this month.



## "I Love to Tell the Story"



This is the theme for Salem's 150th anniversary. Our special service and dinner will be June 30, 2024.



The Steering Committee will be sending a mailing to current members, past members and acquaintances of Salem. They are asking the congregation if they would like to add a name or several to the mailing list. Just call and leave the name, address and email (if they have one) at 763.689.1687 or drop the name and address at the church offices.



Kid-Friendly FAMILY Meal provided at 5:30 on the first and third Wednesdays! See you there!



Youth Ministry night is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of most months.



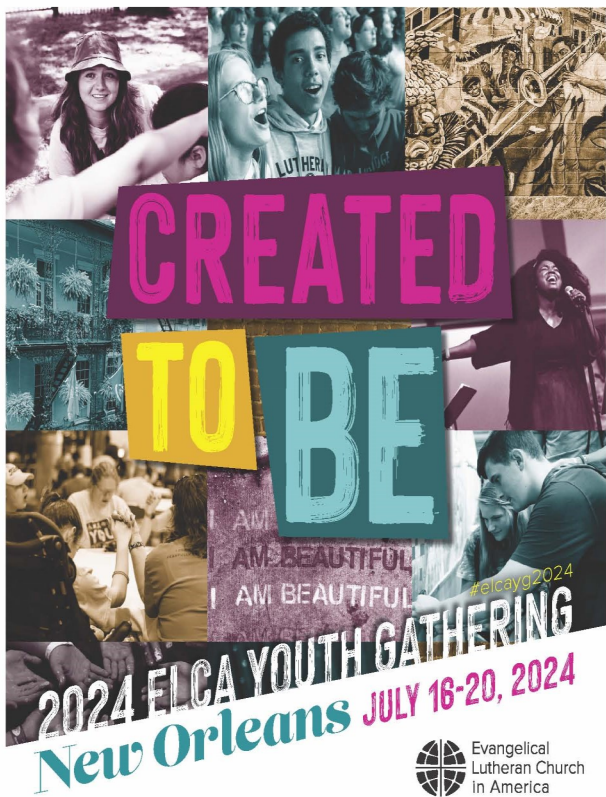
All kids ages 3-Grade 6  
6:15-7:30 PM



Confirmation Class  
6:30-7:30 PM

## Worship MINISTRY

DATE	GREETERS & USHERS	LAY READER	COMMUNION ASST	ALTAR GUILD	ALCOLYTES
Dec 3	Peter & Jen Shugren	DeeDee Johnson	Jesse Johnson	Annie Johnson	Juliana Linder
Dec 10	Don & Gayle Erickson	Christmas Program	Jesse Johnson	Christmas Program	Sophia Jensrud
Dec 17	Don & Gayle Erickson	Brenna Johnson	Jesse Johnson	Shirley Illg	David Torkelson
Dec 21	Suzanne Hulett	None Needed	Jesse Johnson	None	
Dec 24	10:30 AM Suzanne Hulett & Keith Engstrom 6:00 PM David & Bonnie Lundin	10:30 AM 6:00 PM Jesse Johnson both services	Jesse Johnson, both services	Alaina Norby, both services	
Dec 25	Suzanne & Jeff Hulett	Keith Engstrom	Jesse Johnson	Alaina Norby	
Dec 31	Suzanne Hulett & Beverly Ramey	Bev Ramey	Jesse Johnson	No Communion	



Six of our members are going to New Orleans to attend the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering!

We look forward to our youth experiencing their faith with youth from all over the country!

During the months before this trip they will be seeking out various fundraising opportunities to assist with some of the expenses.



The Salem Lutheran Youth Gathering Group will offer their gift wrapping services!

There will be a free will offering for this service. You may provide your own wrapping paper or the youth group will have some as well!

*If you have any questions regarding Youth Activities see Pastor Mary or Wendy Linder*



# Advent 1

December 3rd, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Readings

Isaiah 64:1-9 | Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Mark 12:24-37

## Prayers of Intercession

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief. Deliver all in any need...especially... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**



# Advent 2

December 10th, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Readings

Isaiah 40:1-11 | Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 | 2 Peter 3:8-15a | Mark 1:1-8

## Prayers of Intercession

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain...especially... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**





# Advent 3

December 17th, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Readings

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 | Psalm 126 | 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 | John 1:6-8, 19-28

## Prayers of Intercession

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Fill our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy as we bear witness to the great things you have done. Give your church a spirit of gladness as we gather and as we are sent.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let the trees of the field sing your praise. Protect forests, orchards, rainforests, and all wooded areas from disease and deforestation. Keep us grateful for their gifts of oxygen, food, shade, and shelter. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You love justice and promise your favor to those who are oppressed, brokenhearted, and incarcerated. Grant wisdom and compassion to those who work for public safety and all who work within prisons, jails, and courts, that mercy may increase and violence wither away.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give us strength to pray for our world without ceasing and provoke us toward love and good deeds for all who are in need. Provide for all without adequate housing, food, employment, or access to health care. Empower us as helpers and advocates... especially... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Open our hearts to those who serve as truth-tellers in our church and in our society. Bless leaders in church and society in their task of proclamation. Amplify voices of peacemakers, advocates, and especially those whose voices are ignored or marginalized. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With gratitude we rejoice in the saints who witness to your life in all circumstances, in whom your Spirit was not quenched, even in death. Through them, teach us always to hold fast to what is good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. Amen.

# Joy



# Advent 4

December 24th, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 | Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 | Romans 16:25-27 | Luke 1:26-38

## Prayers of Intercession

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

You promise mercy to Abraham and Sarah and their descendants forever. Bring your church into thoughtful, caring, and collaborative relationship with those of other faiths. Strengthen our shared values, that we work together in caring for our world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As fields and crops lie dormant, bless them with holy rest. Prepare them to thrive, that they provide abundant food in due season. Protect animals who hibernate and provide for all who scavenge for food in the lean season. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You raise up the lowly and cast down the arrogant. Teach humility to all in positions of authority. Break down systems of oppression, especially systems that perpetuate inequity and exclusion.

Do not allow wealth, power, or pride to become idols that obscure your call to justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Look with favor upon all who cry out to you. Accompany with tenderness all who are afraid or ill. Rescue all who experience abuse or who live under threat of violence, especially refugees, immigrants, and asylum-seekers in search of a safe and stable home... especially... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are pleased to make your home among us. Make our homecomings joyful as we gather with friends, families, and chosen families in celebration. Grant safety to all who travel. Sustain the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and other ministries that assist in setting up new homes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Blessed are you for Mary and all your servants in every generation who lived according to your promise of mercy. Strengthen us by their example until the revelation of your glory is made known. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. Amen.



## **ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN**

### **BIBLE STUDY!**

Beginning in December  
on the first and third Wednesdays  
at 1:30  
we will be watching “*THE CHOSEN*”  
and discussing each episode afterwards.

#### What is *The Chosen*?

*The Chosen* is a show about Jesus Christ, adapted from the four books of the Bible known as the Gospels, which each tell the story of his birth, life, and death through the varying viewpoints of their writers. The three completed seasons are on the Angel’s website, Peacock and “*The Chosen*” app.

The show itself makes clear, via a disclaimer in the first episode, that “all Biblical and historical context and any artistic imagination are designed to support the truth and intention of the Scriptures.”

We hope you make time in your schedules to come to view and discuss this show with us!

# 1st Sunday of Christmas

December 31st, 2023

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Readings

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 | Psalm 148 | Galatians 4:4-7 | Luke 2:22-40

## Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God’s good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

You inspire faith in our hearts and call us to rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our churches places of belonging for all people in the fullness of their being. Raise up the gifts and the witness of people who are neurodivergent, living with disability, or bearing invisible illness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your praise is sung throughout creation in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to the rhythms of the cosmos and inspire us to live in harmony with all the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Give hope and stamina to leaders who work tirelessly for the sake of the most vulnerable. We pray especially for organizations working on behalf of children to provide basic needs, to protect from abuse and neglect, to address trauma, and to rescue from trafficking. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all people who have been waiting for salvation and wholeness. We pray especially for anyone living with cancer or chronic illness, all people who are in physical rehabilitation or addiction recovery, and those experiencing complications from long COVID...especially... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Let this community of faith be a joyful and welcome place for all ages and generations. Teach us to honor the wisdom of children, the inquisitiveness of youth, the thoughtfulness of adults, and the knowledge of elders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the beloved who lived with expectation and departed this life in peace. Sustain us in joy until we join them around your throne. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.**



# News from your



Roseanna Kollman resigned her position as church treasurer in September, a position she held for almost a decade. Roseanna spent many hours during those years updating and verifying the financial records for Salem. Thank, Roseanna, for your faithful devotion to Salem and to the treasurer position.

In October, the church council appointed Kristi Johnson to the position of church treasurer and to fill the vacant church council position. Welcome Kristi to the Church Council.

## Finance Information

Month	Month Budgeted	Giving	Monthly Difference	Year to Date	COMMENTS: As we are coming in to the end of the year, we want to thank the congregation for all the offerings given to the church. As we finish the year, we are currently below budget. Please also start thinking of next year and pray on an increase if you are able to help with next year's increased budget.
	1st Quarter			+ \$1,901	
	2nd Quarter			+\$3,934	
	3rd Quarter			-\$1,892	
Oct	\$8,663	\$6,757	-\$1,906	-\$3,798	

*Thank you!*

### Thank You to everyone who assisted with "Thank You Lord Dinner"

Almost 150 people enjoyed an evening of dinner and entertainment at the "Thank You Lord Dinner" on October 14. A special thank you to Justin Linder, Larry Lindquist, and Gayle and Don Erickson for chairing the committee and to all of the volunteers who assisted with the dinner. A donation of \$217.37 was split between the food shelves in Cambridge and Princeton and the remaining profit of \$1956.37 was designated to the general fund.



### Thank you to David and Brad!

You may have noticed that the playground equipment received a facelift over the summer. They pressure washed and stained the equipment!

Suzanne

Donovan

Beverly

Keith



MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wendy

Jesse

David

Brenna

Kristy

**Salem Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes - APPROVED  
September 13, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Suzanne Hulett called the meeting to order @ 5:58 pm

**II. OPENING PRAYER**

Beverly led the council in an opening prayer.

**III. ROLL CALL**

The following people were present: Executive Committee – Suzanne Hulett, Keith Engstrom, and Beverly Ramey. Council Members - Pastor Mary Fiel, Wendy Linder, David Lundin, Don Erickson, Jesse Johnson and Roseanna Kohlman \*\*. Brenna Johnson was absent.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

**SECRETARY REPORT**

- Secretary's report was passed out. Motion to accept the report by Wendy and second by David. Minutes approved.

**TREASURE/FINANCIAL REPORT**

- Motion to accept the Treasure/Financial Report as written. Motion by Bev and second by Donovan. Financial report approved.
- Shalom Financial report – Pastor Mary received one request for back to school help this month.

**PASTOR REPORT**

- 8 Sunday worship services
- 0 baptism, 0 weddings, 0 funerals/memorials
- 7 Pastoral care visits

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Council Election**

- 1 Council position remains open – appointment by Council (until 2024 election)

**2023 Congregation/Pastor Priorities – we will review monthly**

- Growth of Congregation
  - Increase membership
  - Increase Outreach to previous members and older members unable to worship on a regular basis
- Fellowship
  - Increase youth involvement in services and activities/Grow Youth Program
- Financial
  - Encourage personal review of tithing and challenge members to increase giving

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**PASTOR REIMBURSEMENTS**

- i. Mileage – \$84.59
- ii. Expenses – \$31.74

Motion by Bev to approve and Keith seconded. Motion approved.

**2023-2024 Council Administration**

1. Election of Council/Congregation Officers
  - a. President – Suzanne



- b. Vice President – Keith
- c. Secretary – Beverly
- 2. Monthly Responsibilities signup sheet passed and filled out
- 3. Committee/Taskforce Sign-up
  - a. Discipleship will move to Suzanne and Beverly
- 4. Meeting date and time – we will re-evaluate at next month’s meeting.
- 5. Updated contact information for council members.

**Acceptance of Gift of Baptism Oil Candle in Memory of Amanda Johnson from Shirley and Gerry Illg.**

- Motion by Beverly and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donovan. Motion passed.

**Council Officers’ September Meeting update**

- Staff Evaluations and Review of Job Descriptions (Pastor Mary, Wendy Dawn, Renee Horbul and Cathy Koolmo) will be completed in early October.
- Treasurer Report – save paper by distributing cover page to council and have a detailed copy to pass at the meeting.
- Proposed Constitution Change – schedule an annual meeting the last Sunday to in February, eliminate semi-annual meeting in June, election of new council members in February and council members take office March 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion by Jesse and seconded by Donovan. Motion passed.

**Treasurer Resignation**

- Roseanna handed in her resignation effective Friday September 15.
- Discussion about Restricted Funds versed Unrestricted Funds.
  - a. Motion to close ELCA line item and move balance to general fund. Motion by Jesse and seconded by Wendy. Motion passed.
  - b. Motion to close Loaves and Fishes line item and apply the \$500 to Synod Giving. Motion by Beverly and seconded by Jesse. Motion passed.
  - c. Motion to change Sunday School fund to Youth Education. Motion by Jesse and seconded by Beverly. Motion passed.
- Proposed Constitution Change – schedule an annual meeting to the last Sunday in February, eliminate semi-annual meeting in June, election of new council members in February and council members take office March 1<sup>st</sup>. Motion by Jesse and seconded by Donovan. Motion passed.

**Adopt a Highway**

- This is a 2-year commitment. No youth under 12 can participate. 12 to 17 need to have a signed form.
- Mile number 52 to 54.
- Bags and vests are provided by the DOT. We will have a sign on the highway.
- Cleanup to be done 2 times a year.
- Motion by Pastor Mary and seconded by Jesse. Motion passed.

**October Responsibilities: Keith Engstrom**

**COMMITTEE / TASKFORCE :**  
**COMMITTEES**

**Education & Youth - Wendy Linder & Brenna Johnson**

- Rally Sunday – teachers are still needed for fall.

**Fellowship & Discipleship – Suzanne Hulett and Beverly Ramey**

- “Thank You Lord Supper” is October 14, 2023. Food is being ordered for 300. Youth are helping and there is a signup sheet for adults.
- “God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday September 10 service project. 11 people attended and wood stacked and the building was swept out.

- 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 2024 theme: "I Love to Tell the Story"
  - Council picture will be retaken – we will receive advance notice

**Property – David Lundin & Jesse Johnson**

- Wasps in the Carport
- Furnace in planning stages.

**Stewardship - Keith Engstrom**

- October stewardship plan will be table talks and fellowship activities.

**Worship & Music - Don Erickson**

- Church service time in local paper was corrected
- A request has been made to update giving vs actual expenses to date in the bulletin or quarterly in newsletter. Will continue discussion on this.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Pastor Mary ended with a closing prayer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by David, second by Jesse, motion passed  
Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

September 20 Confirmation Information Meeting  
October 3 1:30 Stewardship Committee Meeting  
October 9 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting  
October 11 6 pm Church Council Meeting  
October 14 4:30 – 7:00 "Thank You Lord Supper"

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beverly Ramey  
Council Secretary

**We are all God's children reflecting His Love**

\*\* non-council member but council treasurer



**Salem Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED**  
**October 11, 2023**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Suzanne Hulett called the meeting to order @ 6:05 pm
- II. **OPENING PRAYER**  
Keith led the council in an opening prayer.
- III. **ROLL CALL**  
The following people were present: Executive Committee – Suzanne Hulett, Keith Engstrom, and Beverly Ramey. Council Members - Pastor Mary Fiel, Wendy Linder, David Lundin, Don Erickson, Jesse Johnson, Kristy Johnson and Brenna Johnson.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**  
**SECRETARY REPORT**
  - Secretary's report was passed out. Motion to accept the report by David and second by Wendy. Minutes approved.**TREASURE/FINANCIAL REPORT**
  - Motion to accept the Treasure/Financial Report as written. Motion by Bev and second by Donovan. Financial report approved.
  - Shalom Financial report – Pastor Mary received one request for additional food supplies for Path to Home dinner this month.**PASTOR REPORT**
  - 8 Sunday worship services
  - 0 baptisms, 0 weddings, 0 funerals/memorials, 2 graveside services
  - 6 Pastoral care visits
- V. **COMMITTEE /TASKFORCE;**  
**COMMITTEES**  
**Education & Youth - Wendy Linder & Brenna Johnson**
  - Sunday school curriculum to be purchased with the church debit card. Motion by Don and second by David. Motion approved.
  - Request for Salem to pay the \$150 deposit for each youth and adult leader registering for the ELCA National Youth Gathering 2024.
    - Motion by Jesse with a second by Brenna to pay \$150 per person with the church debit card and approval to move funds from the youth fund to the card for the payment of the deposit. Motion approved.**Fellowship & Discipleship – Suzanne Hulett and Beverly Ramey**
  - “Thank You Lord Supper” is October 14, 2023. Ready to go.
  - “Adopt a Highway” – Highway 47, south of Dalbo Fire department. Approved and waiting for the sign.
  - 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 2024 theme: “I Love to Tell the Story.”
    - Council picture will be retaken – we will receive advance notice**Property – David Lundin & Jesse Johnson**
  - Motion by Don and second by Wendy to pay \$112.18 for the Menards bill. Motion approved.
  - Gary Boser caulked the entry.
  - Gary and David cleaned up the church yard.

- Orange stakes for road enhancement are in front of church. David has asked to be involved in negotiations with the county.
- David wants to replace the kitchen sink drains. Cost will be under \$50.
- “On September 27, 2023, the following motion was unanimously approved via email by the church council: Motion by Property to hire ACE Heating and Air at \$1121.93 for parts and labor and approve an additional \$200 for supplies at Menard’s to adapt the ductwork to accommodate the new furnace.”

**Stewardship - Keith Engstrom**

- The month of October has temple talks and activities during our coffee hour.
- Worship & Music - Don Erickson**
- Church Christmas Worship Schedule – Sunday 12/24, 10:30 am service and 6pm evening service

VI. **OLD BUSINESS;****Council Election**

- One Council position remains open – appointment by Council (until 2024 election). Motion by David and second by Keith to nominate Kristy Johnson as congregation treasurer and to fill the vacant council position. Motion approved.
- Council administration
  - Meeting date and time = November will be at 6:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.

**CD at Cambridge State Bank purchased.****2023 Congregation/Pastor Priorities – we will review monthly.**

- Growth of Congregation
  - Increase membership.
  - Increase Outreach to previous members and older members unable to worship on a regular basis.
- Fellowship
  - Increase youth involvement in services and activities/Grow Youth Program
- Financial
  - Encourage personal review of tithing and challenge members to increase giving.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS****PASTOR REIMBURSEMENTS**

- i. Mileage – \$64.79
- ii. Expenses – \$59.65

Motion by Bev to approve and Wendy seconded. Motion approved.

**Joint executive board meeting with Siloa**

- 2024 Benefit Recommendation – Motion by Jesse and second by Bev to accept the Benefit recommendation package worked out with Siloa.

**Bank Signatures**

- Remove Roseanna Kollman from all accounts at Cambridge State Bank and replace her signing authority with Kristy Johnson on all of the same accounts. The rest of the signers will remain the same. Motion by Donovan and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jesse. Motion passed.

**November Responsibilities: Suzanne Hulett****CLOSING PRAYER**

Pastor Mary ended with a closing prayer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Brenna, second by Bev, motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- October 14 4:30 – 7:00 “Thank You Lord Supper”
- October 20 Newsletter Deadline
- October 29 Reformation Sunday 9:00 AM joint service with Siloa
- November 5 All Saints Sunday
- November 7 1:30 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting
- November 8 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting – Larry Lindquist will present on restricted funds.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beverly Ramey  
Council Secretary

**We are all God’s children reflecting His Love**



# Christmas Floral and Memorial Form

Please complete the following information for your Christmas floral order and/or memorial. Checks should be written to Salem Lutheran Church with CHRISTMAS FLORAL/MEMORIAL in the memo line.

The form **AND** money needs to be into the office by Sunday, December 10th. The forms and money may be placed on the desk in the office. There are envelopes on the office bulletin board for you to use.

Variety	Cost	Quantity
6” Red Poinsettia Foil Wrap	\$15.00	
6” Red Poinsettia Basket/Bow	\$20.00	
7.5” Large Red Poinsettia Foil Wrap	\$31.00	
6” Christmas Cactus Foil	\$26.00	
6” Christmas Cactus Basket/Bow	\$30.00	

In memory of	
Placed by	
<b>MEMORIAL AMOUNT (IF NOT ORDERING FLORAL)</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>FLORAL ORDER AMOUNT FROM ABOVE</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>	<b>\$</b>

# December, 2023



Secretary — Wendy Bengtson Email — salemlutheranchurchdalbo@gmail.com  
 Finance Secretary — Cathy Koolmo Email — slcdalbo@gmail.com

Pastor Mary Fiel  
 Call or text 507.525.3909  
 Email: primaryfiel@gmail.com  
 Office hours by appointment



*We are God's Children reflecting His love*

**Salem Lutheran Church** 4638 381st Ave NW Dalbo, MN 55017 763.689.1687

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10:30 AM Worship ADVENT 11:39 Christmas Program Practice	4	5 8:30 Ladies Breakfast w/ Siloa	6 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1:30 PM Ladies Bible 5:30 PM COMMUNITY MEAL 6:15 SPARKS (ages 3-Gr 6) 6:30 Confirmation	7 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1:30 PM Ladies Bible 5:30 PM COMMUNITY MEAL 6:15 SPARKS (ages 3-Gr 6) 6:30 Confirmation	8 9:30 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 11:00-2:00 Gift Wrapping Fund Rais- er in Fellowship Hall	9 9:30 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 11:00-2:00 Gift Wrapping Fund Rais- er in Fellowship Hall
10 10:30 AM Worship ADVENT Christmas Program 	11	12 8:30 Bobbin Feeders @ Salem w/Siloa	13 8:00 AM Men in Mis- sion Breakfast at Park Café w/Siloa  NO CHURCH COUNCIL	14 8:00 AM Men in Mis- sion Breakfast at Park Café w/Siloa  NO CHURCH COUNCIL	15 8:00 AM Men in Mis- sion Breakfast at Park Café w/Siloa  NO CHURCH COUNCIL	16 Ruby's Pantry-New Hope Church, Isanti, 9:00-11:00 Registra- tion @ 7:30
17 10:30 AM Worship ADVENT	18	19	20 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1:30 PM Ladies Bible 5:30 PM COMMUNITY MEAL 6:15 SPARKS (ages 3-Gr 6)	21 7:00 PM Blue Christmas	22 7:00 PM Blue Christmas	23 7:00 PM Blue Christmas
24 <del>10:30 AM Worship 4:00 Siloa Christmas Eve 6:00 Salem Christmas ve</del>	25 10:30 AM Worship 4:00 Siloa Christmas Eve 6:00 Salem Christmas ve	26	27 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café  6:30 Confirmation	28 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café  6:30 Confirmation	29 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café  6:30 Confirmation	30 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café  6:30 Confirmation
31 10:30 AM Hymn Sing w/ Siloa @ Salem						

## 2024 Ushers & Greeters

Thank you for participating in the ministry at Salem  
by serving as Greeters and Ushers.

- The first name on the list with the \* is asked to contact the others on the list and remind them of the date they are scheduled for. If necessary the Group Leader will make adjustments.
- Please try to have your scheduled volunteers to Wendy Dawn in the church office by the 3rd Friday of the previous month so that it can be printed in the newsletter. You can provide this information to her by either email, leaving a message on the phone or a note on the desk.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF USHERS AND GREETERS INCLUDE:

1. Please be at church 25 minutes before the service.
2. Find your name tag either on the table or in the black box on the table
3. Greet and distribute bulletins and any newsletters that may be on the table.
4. Invite visitors to sign the guestbook if they would like. Provide them with a newsletter. There are usually some in the stand on the narthex table.
5. Ring the church bell just prior to the beginning of service.
6. Be prepared to collect the offering.
7. Count the number of people (include children) in attendance and record it in the table on the narthex table.
8. After service, pick up anything left in the pew and straighten the hymnals in the racks.



Month	Team Members	Phone Number	Month	Team Members	Phone Number
<i>* indicates Group Leader-Call others to coordinate the month and inform the secretary.</i>					
<b>January</b>			<b>July</b>		
7th	* Don & Gayle Erickson	612-702-4696	7th	* Keith Engstrom	763-360-2493
14th	Kalli & Sally Shugren	763-689-2067	14th	Steve & Annie Johnson	763-300-1968
21st	Jesse & Kristy Johnson	763-639-4314	21st	William & Deb Alferness	763-389-5005
28th	Brenna Johnson	612-849-3619	28th	Cindy Johnson	763-670-1964
<b>February</b>	Includes Ash Wednesday/Lenten Services		<b>August</b>		
4th	*Brad & Sandy Engbloom	763-360-4289	4th	*Don & Gayle Erickson	612-702-4696
11th	Keith Johnson	612-221-4438	11th	Alaina & Chris Norby	763-742-4328
18th	Randy & DeeDee Johnson	763-689-5346	18th	Emily Lubenow	612-805-0978
25th	David & Bonnie Lundin	320-396-2808	25th	John Olson	763-246-8415
<b>March</b>	Includes Lenten Services/Holy Week/Easter		<b>September</b>		
3rd	* Keith Engstrom	763-360-2493	1st	* Albert & Vicky Lubenow	612-805-0978
10th	Sean & Kara Eastlund	763-291-2987	8th	Suzanne Hulett	763-670-5082
17th	David & Bonnie Lundin	320-396-2808	15th	Luther & Roxanne Carlson	763-439-4482
24th	John Olson	763-246-8415	22nd	Lyle & Pam Erickson	763-689-5503
31st	Ken & Sharon Erickson	763-689-4770	29th	Justin & Wendy Linder	763-486-6607
<b>April</b>	Includes Holy Week, Easter		<b>October</b>		
7th	* Wanda Johnson	763-286-2775	6th	* Larry Lindquist	763-389-3269
14th	Cole & Lexi Shugren	763-843-8660	13th	Jim & Kim Hansen	763-689-0061
21st	Chad & Cassie Torkelson	651-470-5116	20th	Sandy Holland	763-689-5591
28th	Cindy Johnson	763-670-1964	27th	Merlin & Carol Holland	763-689-2285
<b>May</b>			<b>November</b>		
5th	* Lyle & Pam Erickson	763-689-5503	3rd	* Bob & Nola Smith	612-481-9431
12th	Roger & Bev Larsen	763-689-4932	10th	Don & Gayle Erickson	612-702-4696
19th	Larry Lindquist	763-389-3269	17th	Wendy & Justin Linder	763-486-6607
26th	Rosanna Kollman	763-689-3943	24th	Ken & Sharon Erickson	763-689-4770
<b>June</b>			<b>December</b>	Includes Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve, Julotta	
2nd	* Gary & Pat Boser	612-803-5104	1st	* Suzanne Hulett	763-670-5082
9th	Amanda & Bev Ramey	715-271-9766	1st	*Jeff Hulett	763-218-2837
16th	Don & Bev Nelson	763-286-3368	8th	Keith Johnson	763-645-7997
23rd	Craig & Sandy Quale	763-389-5619	15th	Brad & Sara Benson	763-689-9702
30th	Lisa Johnson & Kyle Oeffling	763-689-6634	22nd	Pete & Jen Shugren	763-689-3882
			29th	Don & Gayle Erickson	612-702-4696



**Salem Lutheran Church**  
4638 381st Ave NW  
Dalbo, MN 55017



**We're on the Web!**

See us at: [www.salemutherandalbo.com](http://www.salemutherandalbo.com)  
Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church Dalbo

**Set office hours:**

**Wendy, Church Secretary**  
Wednesdays from 4pm—6pm

Doors may be locked, simply call or knock and she will unlock the door for you.  
If you need access to church outside of these hours, please call 763.286.6845.

**Pastor Mary** can meet with you via appointment. Please call her at 507.525.3909



December 21st at 7:00 PM Blue Christmas

December 24th at 10:30 AM-Salem  
4:00 PM-Silva  
6:00 PM-Salem  
Julotta/Dec 25th 6:00 AM-Salem