



Salem Lutheran Church

We are all God's children reflecting His love

February, 2024

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!

Last year during our mid-week Lenten worship services I utilized the resources of Lent in a Box from Church Anew, and I felt like they were well received enough for me to use them again this year! We will be moving from the book of Jonah to the book of Acts, and here's what the authors of the Lenten series have to say about our focus for this upcoming season:

Dr. Michael Chan and Dr. Eric Barreto write, "Lent is often a time of self-reflection, spiritual discipline, commitment, and community. Congregations gather to sing the minor harmonies of the way of Jesus on the road toward the cross. This Lent with Church Anew, however, we are going to look at a kaleidoscope of stories from the Book of Acts. We'll see the ways the Spirit alters our perspective, transforms our communities, and consistently blazes a trail ahead of us. We'll catch up with the work of the Holy Spirit, finding ourselves:

- Altered in Witness
- Altered through God's Creativity
- Altered on the Edge of Belonging
- Altered Alongside our Enemies
- Altered by Disruption
- Altered through Stories We Don't Trust
- Victory Altered

Because the Spirit is alive in, with, and under our ordinary lives, always calling us forward into transformation, nudging us into wholeness, and beckoning us forth into an alternative way." I'm so looking forward to this Lenten series for our midweek worship, not only because Dr. Chan and Dr. Barreto were a couple of my favorite professors from Luther Seminary, but also because the book of Acts is full of stories of what the early Christ followers were up to in trying to establish a new way of living out their faith in the world.

I pray we all learn a little bit more about how our lives are Altered by the Spirit as we journey our way through Lent. There will be worship held at alternating churches throughout the season, so make sure to pay attention to the Lenten schedule. But each Wednesday after Ash Wednesday (February 14th) there will be worship held at 1:00pm and 7:00pm, and soup suppers will begin those evenings at 6:00pm. Please consider signing up to help serve or provide food/supplies for the soup suppers as you are able.

Although it feels like we just completed the Christmas season, Lent will be here before we know it - and Easter will arrive even faster! I encourage you to enter into this season of Lent prayerfully and reflectively, tuning into the work of the Spirit in your life and within our churches. I pray through our worship throughout those 40 days that you will see how your own life is being Altered by the Spirit.

Pr Mary

Let's Talk!

We lift up in prayer:



We hold up Lainey Holland (infant great-granddaughter of Jack & Sandy Holland), Wade Eggert (Sally Shugren's nephew), Cathy Koolmo, Pam Peterson, Lisa Gardner in special prayers.

"I Love to Tell the Story"

150th Anniversary



Join us!!

Sunday, February 18th

For our anniversary "kick-off!"

Worship is at 10:30 with special music.

Cake and coffee following.



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



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
Feb 4	Brad & Sandy Engbloom	Jesse Johnson	Wendy Linder	Alaina Norby
Feb 11	David & Bonnie Lundin	Keith Engstrom	Wendy Linder	Shirley Illg
Feb 14	Randy & DeeDee Johnson	ASH WEDNESDAY	Wendy Linder	
Feb 18	Randy & DeeDee Johnson	DeeDee Johnson	Wendy Linder	Annie Johnson
Feb 25	Keith Engstrom	Sharon Erickson	Wendy Linder	Shirley Illg
Feb 28	David & Bonnie Lundin	Lent Service		



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.

GARAGE SALE

Fundraiser

February 10th, 7am-4pm

at Salem Lutheran Church

Free Will donations for your found treasures!!

We are accepting donations of new and gently used items until January 31.



**Candy Bars for sale
only \$1.00 each**

THANK YOU!

February 11th after church

Come to church
ready to help us
judge the BEST chili
made by our youth!



A free-will offering will allow you to
vote for your favorite!

5th Sunday After Epiphany

February 4th, 2024

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Readings

Isaiah 40:21-31 | Psalm 147:1-11, 20c | 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 | Mark 1:29-39

Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need... especially... God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Transfiguration of our Lord

February 11th, 2024

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

2 Kings 2:1-12 | Psalm 50:1-6 | 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 | Mark 9:2-9

Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance for our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for any who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need... especially... God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who died in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await you coming again in glory. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

First Sunday in Lent

February 18th, 2024

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

Genesis 9:8-17 | Psalm 25:1-10 | 1 Peter 3:18-22 | Mark 1:9-15

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse...especially...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey. God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

2nd Sunday in Lent

February 25th, 2024

Prayer of the Day

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 | Psalm 22:23-31 | Romans 4:13-25 | Mark 8:31-38

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring home to any in despair, and console the bereaved...especially...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey. God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

February, 2024

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
4 10:30 AM Worship	5	6 8:30 Ladies Breakfast w/ Siloa at Park Café 6:00 Church Council	7 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1:30 PM The Chosen Bible Study 5:30 PM COMMUNITY MEAL 6:15 SPARKS (ages 3-Gr 6) 6:30 Confirmation	8	9	10 8am-4pm Garage Sale Synod Conf Assembly
11 10:30 AM Worship Chili Cookoff by youth	12	13 8:30 Bobbin Feeders @ Salem w/Siloa	14 8:00 AM Men in Mission w/Siloa @ Park Café 5:30 Listening Session-Future of Salem 7:00 PM ASH WEDNESDAY @ Salem	15 	16	17 Ruby's Pantry-New Hope Church, Isanti, 9:00-11:00 Registration @ 7:30
18 10:30 AM Worship 150th Anniversary Kick-Off-Special Music	19	20	21 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1pm & 7pm Lent @ Siloa 6:00 Soup Supper	22	23	24
25 10:30 AM Worship 5:30 Listening Session-Future of Salem	26	27 8:30 Bobbin Feeders @ Salem w/Siloa	28 8:00 AM Men in Mission Breakfast at Park Café 1pm & 7pm Lent @ Salem 6:00 Soup Supper	29		

**Salem Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2024 – Unapproved Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Suzanne Hulett called the meeting to order @ 6:08 pm

II. OPENING PRAYER

Don Erickson led the council in an opening prayer.

III. ROLL CALL

The following people were present: Executive Committee – Suzanne Hulett, Keith Engstrom, Kristi Johnson, Pastor Mary, and Beverly Ramey. Council Members - Wendy Linder, David Lundin, Don Erickson, Jesse Johnson. Brenna Johnson was not in attendance.

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

- Secretary's report from November was passed out. Motion to accept the report by Jesse and 2nd by Keith. Minutes approved.

TREASURE/FINANCIAL REPORT

- Motion to accept the Treasure/Financial Report as written. Motion by David and second by Wendy. Financial report approved.
- Salem received notification of an Estate gift from Edward Enstrom.
- Shalom Financial report – Pastor Mary received several requests for additional help this month. Community meals, medical expense, electric, and mortgage help. She has used \$3766 but has over \$15,000 available for the community

PASTOR REPORT

- 6 Sunday worship services in December
- 0 baptism, 0 weddings, 1 funerals/memorials
- 4 Pastoral care visits
- Designation of 2024 Housing.

V. COMMITTEE / TASKFORCE:**COMMITTEES****Education & Youth - Wendy Linder & Brenna Johnson**

- NYG fundraising ongoing.
- On November 16th via email Pastor Mary made a motion to use \$1000 from the youth fund to purchase 50 Kwick Trip Car wash cards, which will be repaid as the cards are sold and the Youth participate in additional fundraising. **Church Council approved** the motion via email on November 24, 2023.

Fellowship & Discipleship – Suzanne Hulett and Beverly Ramey

- “Adopt a Highway” – Highway 47, south of Dalbo Fire department. Sign is now up.
- 150th Anniversary Celebration 2024 theme: “I Love to Tell the Story.”
 - February 18, 2024, to June 30, 2024

Property – David Lundin & Jesse Johnson

- Cash payment of \$350 approved for Fred Swanson for 2022-2023 plowing
- County Rd 3 Reconstruction Project upade.
- Kitchen sink repaired and the Menards refund was used for the supplies
- Snow shoveling sign up is available.
- Elevator has been inspected.

Stewardship - Keith Engstrom

- The ongoing focus will be on time and talents.

Worship & Music - Don Erickson

- Request to add 10 bulletins to the weekly printing.
- Light for the Grand Piano has been ordered.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:**Council Administration**

- June monthly responsibilities open
- 2024 Congregation/Pastor Priorities
 - Increase local giving,
 - Join Siloa on Path to Home program.
 - Bolster groups within our church
 - Adopt an elementary school?
 - Pick up local elderly for community dinner on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.
- Council administration
 - Meeting date and time = No meeting in December. On December 6 Church Council approved the following items via email:
 - Pastor Mary expenses \$50.03
 - Pastor Mary mileage \$75.10
 - Cash Payment of \$350 to Fred Swanson for 2022-2023 plowing.

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 – \$73.86
 - ii. Expenses – \$88.79
 - iii. Lent in a box - \$56.25
Motion by Bev to approve and Kristy seconded. Motion approved.
- February and Marcy Meetings – Lent interferes.
 - Meeting date and time = Next meeting will be February 6, 2024 at 6:30 pm and March 12 @ 7pm
- 2024 Budget Approval
 - Council reviewed. Motion to accept by Bev and second by Kristi. Motion approved.
- Memorial Fund Request
 - Request to purchase a smart tv with a mount. Motion by David and 2nd by Wendy. Motion approved with a limit of up to \$500
- Office Supply request of 108.57.
 - Motion to add \$225 to the church debit card to cover supplies and Microsoft yearly fee. Motion by Don and Second by Kristi.

- Reimburse Pam E for the software to create the 150th booklet and to provide seed money to the 150th committee of \$3000 to be reimbursed as money comes in. Motion by Pastor Mary and second by Wendy

January Responsibilities: Don Erickson
February Responsibilities: Wendy Linder
March Responsibilities: Beverly Ramey

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Mary ended with a closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by David, second by Kristi, motion approved.
Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 17, 24, 31, & February 7 12 noon Bulletin Deadline
 January 20 Newsletter deadline
 January 28 Annual Meeting following worship
 February 6 Council meeting at 6:30pm
 February 14 Ash Wednesday start of Lent

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Ramey
Council Secretary

We are all God's children reflecting His Love

We will



As the Anniversary and Stewardship Committees have been meeting over the last year, a theme has come up: the future of Salem Lutheran Church. While those committees have wise volunteers involved, they represent only a portion of the congregation and their dreams. The Stewardship Committee is looking to host two listening sessions in February for us to get a better feel of what members would like to see in Salem's future.




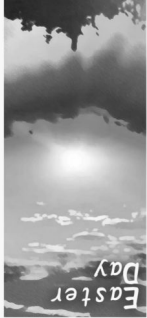
Please join us either at **5:30pm on Wednesday, February 14th OR 11:45am on Sunday, February 25th** to give us feedback on what dreams you have for Salem, and where you see us heading in the future. Not only does this help our congregational leaders determine where to place our efforts in the future, but it will hopefully give the Stewardship Committee some insight into what time and talents will be necessary to focus on in the coming months.

If you can't make it to either of those listening sessions, but would like to give your insight, please send those comments to Pr. Mary via email. Thanks!

Midweek Lenten Schedule
Feb 14-7pm at Salem ASH WEDNESDAY

Soup Suppers at 6:00 PM on following

- Feb 21-1pm & 7pm @ Siloa
- Feb 28-1pm & 7pm @ Salem
- Mar 6-1pm & 7pm @ Salem
- Mar 13-1pm & 7pm @ Salem
- Mar 20-1pm & 7pm @ Salem

			
Palm Sunday March 24 @10:30 AM	Maundy Thursday March 28 7 PM @ Salem	Good Friday March 29 7 PM @ Siloa	Easter Day March 31 9:00 AM

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



We're on the Web!

See us at: www.salem.lutheran.dalbo.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