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Salem Lutheran Church
4715 Hermantown Rd.
Hermantown, MN 55811



January, 2023

Pastor – John Ansell
Pastor’s Cell – 952-261-5593
Church Office – 218- 727-1357
Office Manager – Beth Erdmann

Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9:00-1:00

Email Address – salemhermantown@gmail.com
Web Address – www.slecduluth.org
“Like” us on Facebook

Sunday Worship Schedule
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am

**Salem’s Annual Meeting will
be held Sunday, January 29
following worship.**

Greetings Everyone and Happy New Year, I hope everyone has had a wonderful holiday season and a blessed start to the New Year. With this New Year we will usher in a new chapter for Salem. Having a new pastor with a full year ahead of us can bring forth many ideas and plans to help guide us forward as a community together. I look forward to all the possible ways we can create opportunities for learning, worship, and services for not just this year but for many other years to come. Hopefully as we are united in our faith, we work together to be a wonderful community for all whom we encounter.

Speaking of what is uniting us in our faith specifically is our connection to Christ. How this connection becomes is not just in our belief or knowledge but also through our baptism. Since I have been here there have been quite a few baptisms and I would imagine there will be plenty more. Baptism is an important part to our faith and is a wonderful gift in which God gives to us. For not only does it help unite us as Christians, but it does plenty more. In fact, out of Luther's small catechism he describes the benefits of baptism as "In Baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he

has promised." Baptism is a wonderful gift which we all can benefit from and unite us together as a Christian community.

In this new year we have plenty of things we can be doing as a faith community. In all we there can be great hope for God's many blessings to enrich our community. Such hope can lead us to new possibilities for our faith community. A community that is connected to gather through our faith in Christ and in our baptism which brings us many more great things. So, as we begin this new year may God's blessing and gifts enrich our lives and faith community.

Yours in Christ,
-Pastor John Ansell

Lessons for January, 2023

1/1/2023 Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21

1/8/2023 Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

1/15/2023 Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

1/22/2023 Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

1/29/2023 Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

From the Church Office:

- **The Church Office is in the process of updating the directory. Please notify the church office if you have moved, changed your phone number or email address.**
- **2023 Offering Envelopes are now available in the narthex. If you prefer to have your envelopes mailed to you, please contact the church office.**
- **Annual Report Articles are due January 3, 2023.**
- **Annual Reports will be available in the narthex and via email Sunday, January 15, 2023.**
- **Salem's Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 29, 2023 following worship.**
- **2022 Contribution Reports will be mailed/mailed out on or before January 31, 2023.**

ABOUT OUR SALEM FAMILY

Baptisms!

The Kingdom of God was increased with the Holy Baptism of **Harper Elizabeth Jones** daughter of James & Crystal Jones on Saturday, December 10th. Sponsoring Harper are Melissa Reinitz, Jennifer Holtz and Katelyn Bonde.

The Kingdom of God was increased with the Holy Baptism of **Emerson Owen Thompson** son of Ryan & Annalise Thompson on Sunday, December 11th. Sponsoring Emerson are Kayla & Jason McKenzie and Kristen Settergren and Scott Collins.

With Sympathy!

Our heartfelt sympathy to Roger Berntsen and Dale & Nancy Berntsen on the death of Roger and Dale's aunt, Mabel on December 4th.

“Happy Birthday” To Our Members in “January”

2	Laurie Swor	20	Connor Erdmann
4	Peggy Bannor	21	Amelia Williams
	Abby Hahn	22	Calie Kruger
	Mike Healy	23	Tyler Kruger
7	JoDean Carlson	24	Amy Hudson
	Barb Johnson	25	Jason Jaros
8	Dave Kantola	26	Steve Ide
9	James Olson	27	Josh Hendrickson
11	Myrna Johnson	28	Sandi Peterson
13	Vivian Economy	30	Liam Paulson
18	Lyndsay Burud		
	Meggan Burud		

THE POWER OF PRAYER AT SALEM

Salem's Prayer Chain contact person is Bettie Lou Nicholson. All members of Salem are welcome to become a link in this very important ministry. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Bettie Lou at 722-6246.

Growing Together in Faith

Next Confirmation Class, Sunday,
January 8th at 11:00 am
Sunday School will resume Sunday,
January 15th at 9:00 am
Adult Education will resume in February.

Quilting Quilting Quilting

Every Wednesday Salem's quilting group meets at 9:30 am in the family room. This group will welcome you with open arms and you don't even need to know how to quilt!

Drawing, cutting, ironing, pinning and sewing are part of the work of this group, along with coffee & cookies. Come join us!

Our quilts are donated to victims of fires, those that are homeless or in transition, mission trips to other parts of the country and also to World Missions. Come and join us!

Quilters are also looking for gently used bed sheets to use as backing for their quilts.



New Year's Resolutions:

- Update old youth minister's office into a modern meeting room (with new paint and new furniture)
- Update nursery (into a more usable space)
- Update library with new furniture and paint (and fix baseboard)
- Create cupboards in the area across from the Sunday School office to hold archives
- Digitalize photos and slides for easier and safer storage
- Create a display case to house historical photos and items for display



If you would like to help with one of these projects or would like to financially sponsor one of these projects, please let the church office know and they will connect you with the right people!

Let's update and beautify our Salem home.

NAPS & Backpack Packing at Second Harvest Backpack Packing

1st Thursday of the Month
9:00-11:00 **OR** 1:00-3:00

NAPS Packing

3rd Thursday of the Month
9:00-11:00 **OR** 1:00-3:00

Look for signup sheets in the narthex.

Salem Council Meeting Highlights 12/12/2022

Approval of previous meeting minutes: Approved via email confirmation

New and Continued Business:

Nominating committee: Laura Lilyquist, Judy Hane, Kim Settegren. Met with Pastor on John 12 Dec to discuss new Council members, Audit committee, voting members for Synod Assembly, and Nominating committee.

Scout Charter and Liaison: Dale Rollins agreed to be the liaison for a period of 2 years, pending the council decisions to move forward. Diana made the motion to move forward with the scout charter, Nancy seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the council.

Public Relations: Website updates ongoing with the help of the volunteer, Josh Mirra.

Daycare Lease Renewal: Jason, Beth, and Pastor John will meet with Stacy regarding 2023 lease agreement.

Team/Committee Updates:

Worship Planning: Advent study has had 8-10 people and very positively received. Another talk is expected to follow in February. The team is working to meet quarterly meetings moving forward, with touch points as necessary.

Youth Ministry: Good showing to make cookies, Cragun's was a fun trip, confirmation is going well. Working on a possible February retreat for confirmation kids (TBD in January). Children's program is 18 Dec.

Mutual Ministry: The ministry is now scheduling a time to meet with each person to discuss their performance, concerns, etc. Weather and various conflicts is making it challenging to schedule the meetings. More to come next month.

Property: No updates on the Boiler (waiting on parts). Bathrooms look to be moving forward on 14 or 17 January. The roof work is ongoing, just a lot of waiting for warmer weather and finalizing the contractor.

Finance: Diana is working on the budget. 20 December will be the finance meeting to build a draft budget for 2023. Still working on setting up the new finance program, Icon. No decision yet on a replacement.

Outreach and Social Concerns: 600+ cookies made and delivered to County jail inmate's Christmas in response to a letter from Kathryn Bell on behalf of St. Louis County Jail. Lee and Chris attended the quarterly CHUM meeting as Salem delegates. CHUM has an Amazon Wishlist that is posted on Salem's Facebook. 35 shoeboxes were completed this year for Operation Christmas Child. Finally, gifts were purchased and wrapped for our Adopted Christmas family. Some discussion on when the milk can (noisy offering) money was emptied and sent to charity, which should be in February or spring timeframe.

Pastors Update: No questions on the submitted report. Question came up on vacation for Pastor. Pastor John will take vacation 27 Dec through 1 Jan, with 26 Dec and 2 January are holidays.

WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE January, 2023

	1	8	15	22	29
LEAD COMM.		Nancy Berntsen	Amy Piph	Jason Jaros	Carol Christenson
READER	Richard Petersson	Nancy Larrivy	Nancy Berntsen	Christy Jaros	Rolene Lampi
ALTAR CARE					

