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Salem Lutheran Church
4715 Hermantown Rd.
Hermantown, MN 55811

ADDRESS LABEL

June, 2026

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

Temporary Church Office Hours
Tuesday - Thursday - 9:00-1:00

Email Address – salemhermantown@gmail.com

Web Address – www.slecduluth.org

“Like” us on Facebook

Sunday Worship Schedule
Youth Education 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship 11:00 am

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES

Weather permitting, Salem will be holding outdoor worship services on June 28, July 26 & August 30. Bring your own chair or use one of ours and join us to worship in God’s beautiful creation!





Newsletter Mailing

With the cost of mail (including bulk mail) continuing to rise, there will be a change in how the newsletter will be distributed. Beginning with August Sunburst, the newsletter will be emailed out to members. **If you DO NOT have email or prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the church office know before July 21st which is the mailing date for the August newsletter.**

From the Church Office

As a reminder, if you or a family member would like a visit from Pastor John, please contact the church office (218-727-1357) or Pastor John's cell phone (952-261-5593) as unless requested, facilities (hospitals, nursing homes, etc) no longer contact the church office or Pastor for visits. Thank you.

Greetings Everyone,

In June, we celebrate all those who have had a fatherly influence in our lives. This year, Father's Day falls right after Grandma's Marathon. Depending on how I am feeling after struggling to run the full marathon may determine what I am able to do with my own father the next day. However, even just making a phone call is something my dad appreciates when it comes to staying connected with his kids.

One thing my dad has always appreciated is watching pro wrestling. As a kid, my dad enjoyed watching pro wrestling on the nights it aired. He knew all the wrestlers and, still to this day, keeps up with all the shows. In fact, if you are at their house on a wrestling night, you know exactly what will be on TV.

In life, we may face struggles that we have to wrestle with. These struggles could involve relationships, work, or even faith. At times, life can feel like one big wrestling match with all of our issues. Some struggles may seem small and manageable, while others may feel like a giant opponent straight out of a pro wrestling show. Regardless of the size of the struggle, it is still something we must face.

Yet wrestling with struggles is nothing new. Scripture contains many stories of people struggling through life and faith. One particular story involving wrestling is found in Genesis 32 with Jacob. In this story, Jacob has a great deal going on in his life and finds himself alone. Suddenly, he encounters a stranger, and they begin wrestling through the night. At the end of the match, Jacob is given both a blessing and a new name. Genesis 32:28 says, "Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,

for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.” Jacob’s story is one of struggles with family, life, and faith. In this particular passage, the wrestling match is with an unknown figure. A figure some may identify as God, an angel, or another spiritual being. Yet at the end of the struggle, Jacob receives the name Israel because he has striven with God and humanity and prevailed.

We may not physically wrestle with the struggles we face like Jacob did. However, the exhaustion and emotional wear are still very real. Dealing with our struggles takes a great amount of emotional strength. Yet overcoming them can bring growth, blessing, and renewal, just as Jacob experienced through his own struggles. Our blessing often comes through learning and growing from the things we have wrestled with.

This is not to say we face struggles alone. There are many people in our lives who can help support us through difficult times. Furthermore, even when we wrestle with our faith, God remains present and works in ways we may not always recognize. So, no matter where you are in your struggles, even if you feel completely exhausted, remember that there are people around you, including God, to help and support you. May God’s blessings be with you in your struggles and all the rest of your time.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor John

Lessons for June, 2026

6/7/2026: Hosea 5:15-6:6; Psalm 50:7-15;
Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 19-26

6/14/2026: Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100;
Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8

6/21/2026: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18

6/28/2026: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

ABOUT OUR SALEM FAMILY

Thank you!

Salem members,

Thank you so much for helping me get things done around my house. This helps so much. Elliyana, Nikomah and myself appreciate it everything.

Angie Ridgley

**Congratulations Class of 2026!
Isabella Dwinell, Madelyn Jaros,
Ariana Nunez, Sophie Wietman**

“Happy Birthday” To Our Members in “June”

1	Calin Chilberg	18	David Bosley
	Simon Erdmann		Frank Dusek
	Clara Forsell		Miriam Johnson
2	Clayton Johnson		Taylor Porter
3	Sandra Stepenson-Nys	21	Jamie Szamatula
		22	Kathy Ide
4	Nathan Erickson		Gabby Pipho
	Shirley Ostlund		Amanda Wood
5	Terry Hanson	23	Megan Helmer
6	London Byrnes		Jack Jaros
8	Keith Erickson	24	Doug Johnson
9	Lars Erickson	25	Chris Carlson
	David Pipho		Doreen Gableman
12	Matthew Erickson		Christy Jaros
	Ralph Johnson	28	Bonnie Jahr
	Sally Rollins		Richard Petersson
	Sophie Wietman		

THE POWER OF PRAYER AT SALEM

Salem’s Prayer Chain contact person is Maria Karon. All members of Salem are welcome to become a link in this very important ministry. If you are interested in becoming involved or have a prayer chain request, please contact Maria at 218-940-0347.

21st ANNUAL CHUM RHUBARB FESTIVAL
 CHUM’s Rhubarb Festival will be held at Asbury Methodist Church on Saturday, June 27 from 9:00-3:00. Check out CHUM’s Facebook page or website for detail on the day including shuttle bus transportation.



Salem is once again tasked with staffing the bake sale tent—the bake sale is consistently the highest grossing part of the Rhubarb Festival, so this is a **VERY** important job! If you are willing to help, please reach out to Lisa at 218-393-0869 (text or call). We would love it if volunteers could help for the full day (7:00-3:00, including set up), but partial day volunteers are also welcome!

If you have unwanted rhubarb (or know someone who is looking to get rid of theirs), please reach out to Lisa or Chris and they will quickly turn it into quarts of juice to be sold at the festival or used for Salem’s rhubarb jelly donation next year.

Church Office Manager

Salem is seeking a dedicated and organized person to join our staff! The ideal candidate will work in collaboration with pastoral staff, non-rostered staff, church committees, and members of Salem to provide operational support of the church. This position requires efficient skills in administration, communication, and time management. They must be comfortable handling financial records and be proficient or be willing to acquire proficiency in various computer applications (e.g. Microsoft Office). Contact Nancy Berntsen, Pastor John or Beth for more information.

SALEM'S FINANCIAL PICTURE

April, 2026		Year to Date	
General Giving	\$17,663	General Giving	\$ 80767
Expenses	\$23334	Total Needed	\$ 83566
Difference	-\$5671	Difference	-\$2798

Council Meeting Highlights May 18, 2026

Approve minutes from April motion to accept by Sharon, seconded by Carol

Old Business

Kitchen Use Guidelines

Additional revisions needed to include a tailored cleaning list for Sunday Coffee etc

Daycare Contract Negotiations

Sharon is still working on this.

Office Manager Position

Still in the search process.

Beth will be done at the end of July

Carol will advertise on Facebook.

Custodial Position

Conversations will be had with candidates in the near future.

Boy Scout Storage.

Additional storage to be given in the Frog room.

New Business

Ministry/Committee/Team Updates

Pastor Report

He has also requested permission to order a new chair to support his stature as well as a plastic mat beneath. Sharon made a motion to allow Pastor John to purchase a new chair up to \$300.00. Motion was seconded by Carol. Approved

Worship Planning Team

May 24th Pentecost

The worship planning team is planning on Red Geraniums along with Red Lei's for members Outdoor Worship (June 28, July 26, August 30 - Last Sunday of the month)

June 7th is Pollinator Celebration Sunday; Creation Sunday

a. Senior Celebration was May 10th

b. Confirmation was May 17th

Generosity Team

Gathering with Bishop Elect Taryn Montgomery Ministry Goals (2-3 goals to be sent out in the "stewardship" letter before August)

Goal 1: There was some discussion on how to grow the youth program as we see a need to do.

Goal #2: How do we expand our ministry goals through time and talent given by individuals.

ACTION STEP: Council members should reflect and create two goals that they believe should be the goals for SLC and bring them back to the next monthly meeting.

Property Committee-

Looked at replacing the light in the back parking lot. We will need a lift to get up to it. Rich has an idea on getting this done.

Painting in the fellowship hall is slowly progressing. Pastor added the Trillium donated art to the family room

Community Ministry

Quilters donated 15 quilts to the homeless veterans Mission Team returned from a successful trip. Fuller potentially looking at new home builds as well in many of the areas with weather related disasters.

Evangelism & Outreach Ministry

Rhubarb festival will need volunteers for June 27th at Ashbury Methodist
Treasurer Report(s) via email

WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE


June, 2026

	7	14	21	28
LEAD	Sharon	Carol		
COMM	Szamatula	Christenson		
READER	Rolene Lampi	Carol Christenson	Frank Dusek	Eileen Dusek

M A K E A


"walking snack"

Summer is a great time to take long walks with friends to look at the beauty of God's world. Make an easy "Walking Snack" to take with you on your walk.



Here's what you need:

- apple
- peanut butter
- chocolate chips
- mini-marshmallows
- knife



Here's how to make it:

1. Ask a grownup to help you with this recipe.
2. Hollow out the apple from the top. Remove most of the core, but leave the bottom of the apple uncut.
3. Put some peanut butter into the apple. Fill the hole about halfway.
4. Add some chocolate chips, but leave room for marshmallows.
5. Finish filling the apple with marshmallows.
6. Make another one for a friend.
7. Take the apple snacks along with you when you take a walk with your friend.

A Special Treat for a *Special Dad*

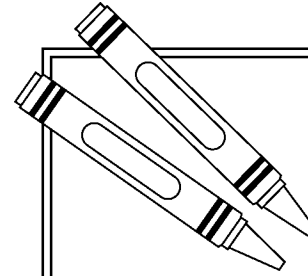
Fathers work hard to take care of their families. To thank your special dad for all he does, make him a treat bag that he can enjoy while at work, in the car or at home.

What you need:

- gift bag, paper lunch bag, plastic container or large Ziploc® bag.
- markers or crayons
- paper (8½" x 11") or smaller
- ribbon, stickers, photograph of your dad (optional)
- glue
- scissors
- large bowl for mixing
- spoon
- ¼ or ½ measuring cup
- your dad's favorite snacks to make a mix. For example: small pretzels, nuts, M&M's®, dried cereals (Cheerios®, Chex®, etc.), chocolate or carob chips, dried fruit (cranberries, raisins, apricots, etc.), shredded coconut, etc.

What to do:

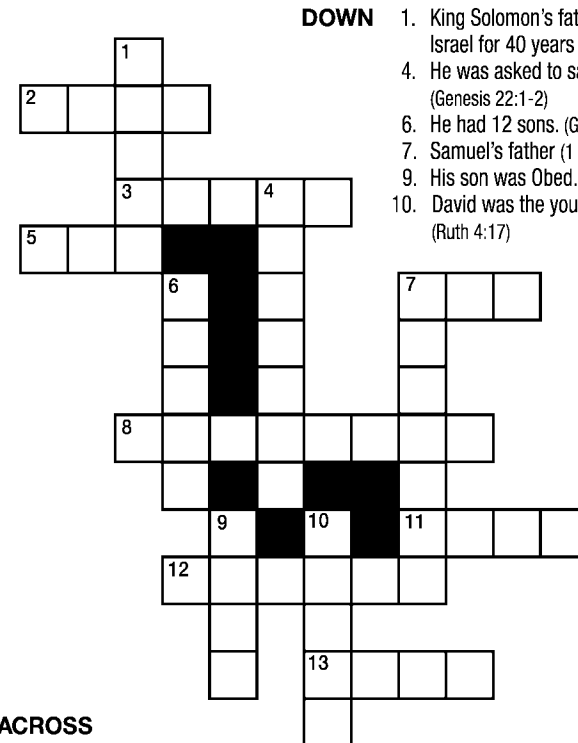
1. Cut your paper to fit on your bag or container.
2. Decorate your paper with a message like: "A Special Treat for My Special Dad!"
3. Glue your message onto the bag or container.
4. Add stickers, photographs or more drawings to the container or bag.
5. Pour ¼ or ½ cup of each snack food into a large mixing bowl.
6. Stir your snack mixture with a spoon, and then pour it into the bag or container.
7. Fold the top of the bag, or close the container. (Use a ribbon or stapler if needed.) Ask for help from an adult to make sure the snack will not fall out.
8. Thank your dad, and then give him this special treat and a big hug!



Just for KIDS

FATHERS IN THE BIBLE

God plans for our fathers to play important parts in our lives. Fill in the puzzle squares with names of important fathers from the Bible. Use the clues and verse references below to help.



DOWN

1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. (Genesis 22:1-2)
6. He had 12 sons. (Genesis 35:22)
7. Samuel's father (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
9. His son was Obed. (Ruth 4:21)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons. (Ruth 4:17)

ACROSS

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark. (Genesis 6:10)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away the birthright of his older son Esau. (Genesis 27:30)
5. The Father of our Lord (Ephesians 1:3)
7. His sons were not like Samuel. They were wicked. (1 Samuel 2:12)
8. David's best friend and father of Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (Genesis 4:25)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus. (Matthew 1:20-21)
13. Father of Jonathan, he was chosen by the people as the first king of Israel. (2 Samuel 9:6)