

SUMMER OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES

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

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 August, I will celebrate my 10th anniversary as an ordained minister in Word and Sacrament. So much has happened over the past 10 years, and I could never have imagined half of what has occurred. Looking back to the beginning of my ministry, I was certainly not prepared to encounter everything that I have experienced. To be fair, however, I do not think anyone could have been prepared to navigate a global pandemic like COVID. Oftentimes, when it comes to gaining experience and wisdom as a pastor, there is no substitute for practical experience. Lord knows that over the past 10 years, I have gained a great deal of wisdom through the many experiences I have had.

When thinking about wisdom we usually associate it with age and experience, bringing about a greater sense of maturity. Oftentimes, we look to our older relatives or colleagues to guide us and share their wisdom. Even though I have reached a point where I have gained a considerable amount of wisdom, I still appreciate the wisdom that others pass on to me from time to time. Yet the wisdom that comes from age and experience is not the only kind that can be gained in this world.

Wisdom can also be found through faith. In particular, we discover wisdom through Scripture. An entire genre of wisdom literature exists within Scripture. Psalms, Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes are among the books of the Bible where wisdom literature can be found. These writings convey the importance and great value of wisdom. One passage speaks to its value in

Proverbs 3:13–15:

“Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.”
(NRSV)

This passage is profound and offers a powerful insight into the wisdom that comes through faith.

As I reflect on my life while turning 41 years old and celebrating 10 years of ministry, I would say that I have obtained a great deal of precious wisdom. As life continues, I have no doubt that I will encounter new experiences that will help me grow even wiser. As time goes on, I imagine I will discover even more forms of wisdom and come to appreciate their value. There are many forms of wisdom, but its overall value is truly priceless. May God’s blessed love and wisdom always be with you. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor John Ansell

Lessons for August, 2026

8/2/2026: Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9,14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

8/9/2026: 1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14: 22-33

8/16/2026: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

8/23/2026: Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16: 13-20

8/30/26: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26: 1-8; Romans 12: 9-21; Matthew 16: 21-28

ABOUT OUR SALEM FAMILY

With Sympathy!

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Roger Halverson who passed away on July, 4th.

Thank you!

Dear Salem Lutheran Church,

Thank you for supporting the Proctor Class of 2026 with your donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Your donation helps the volunteers provide a safe and memorable event for the graduates.

In appreciation, The 2026 PHS Chem Free Committee

Happy Birthday To Our Members in “August”

2	Sharon Kantola	14	Brian Riggio
5	Mary Mart	16	Sara Reid
	Ivy Thompson	17	Ray Lampi
7	Kara Graves	18	Dennis LeMay
8	Eileen Dusek	20	Reed Paulson
	Kelly Erickson		Tim Peterson
10	Pastor John Ansell	21	Nash Byrnes
	Scott Erickson	22	Duane McDonald
	Jayden Isensee	24	Dianne Agustsson
11	Chloe Chilberg	28	Robin Johnson
12	Peter Erickson		
13	Rolene Lampi		

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.

Summer is here! Consider automating your regular donations with our electronic giving program. Salem relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Contact the church office for more information. Thank you!

City on the Hill Music Festival is on August 7th and 8th at Bayfront Festival Park. Some of us are going on the evening of Saturday, August 8th. The whole Festival is awesome! Join us for the fun and inspirational music! Get your tickets online at The City on the Hill Music Festival site, Life 97.3, or at the gate.

SALEM'S FINANCIAL PICTURE

June, 2026		Year to Date	
General Giving	\$17,008	General Giving	\$ 113,545
Expenses	\$12,875	Total Needed	\$ 115,205
Difference	\$4133	Difference	- \$1,660

August, 2026

	2	9	16	23	30
LEAD COMM					
READER	Nancy Berntsen	Rolene Lampi	Frank Dusek	Eileen Dusek	Eric Settergren