

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,

Have you noticed that during Sunday services this year, the Gospel readings have been from Matthew's Gospel? The main reason is the lectionary cycle. Our congregation, along with many other Christian communities, follows what is known as the Revised Common Lectionary. Within a three-year period, the lectionary rotates its focus among three of the Gospel books: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. John's Gospel is usually inserted at various times throughout the three years. Overall, the Revised Common Lectionary has us focusing on Matthew's Gospel this year, which is why we have been hearing from it most Sunday mornings.

Since we have been spending this year listening to Matthew's Gospel, it is good to note that September 21 is his saint's feast day. A saint's feast day honors and recognizes a particular saint and has been a part of Christian tradition for centuries. For us Lutherans, recognizing saints' feast days is generally not as significant, but in other Christian traditions, such as those of our Catholic and Orthodox brothers and sisters, these days are more widely celebrated.

I imagine many people have an idea of who Saint Matthew was. When you have an entire Gospel book with your name on it, people usually take notice! Saint Matthew was one of the twelve apostles who followed Jesus during his life and ministry. Prior to joining Jesus' ministry, he was a tax collector, and in Jesus' time, tax collectors were not well liked. After Jesus' resurrection and ascension, Matthew continued his ministry and writing. Sadly, not much is known about how Matthew died. Some traditions suggest he was martyred in a foreign land, while others suggest he died of natural causes. Because of his work as a tax collector, he is often associated with bankers, accountants, and civil servants. Even though much more could be said about Saint Matthew, I will leave that to your own curiosity and discovery.

As we head into the fall season, we are not too far away from a new lectionary year, which will begin in Advent. However, for a couple more months, we will continue listening to the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew on most Sundays throughout the fall. Then on September 21st we celebrate Saint Matthew's feast day, remembering his life ministry and the great impact he had on the Christian faith. May God's blessings be with you this and every month. Amen.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor John Ansell

Lessons for September, 2026

9/6/2026: Ezekiel 33: 7-11, Psalm 119: 33-40, Romans 13: 8-14, Matthew 18: 15-20

9/13/2026: Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:(1-7) 8-13, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35

9/20/2026: Jonah 3:10-4:11, Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

9/27/2026: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Psalm 25:1-9, Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32

September 2026

	6	13	20	27
LEAD COMM	Sharon Szamatula	Judy Giese	Bill Wietman	Simon Erdmann
READER	Carol Christenson	Richard Petersson	Sophie Wietman	Simon Erdmann

ABOUT OUR SALEM FAMILY

With Sympathy!

Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Chris Carlson who passed away on July, 24th.

Thank you!

Salem received a thank you card from Chum, with numerous messages, here's a sample of what was said:

"Dear Salem Lutheran Church, Wow! What an amazing group you have! The 2026 CHUM Rhubarb Festival was one of our most successful ever—and you helped make that happen!"

"Salem Lutheran, Thank you for your continued support for our favorite rhubarb themed event!"

"Salem Lutheran Church, We are grateful for all that you do to make the rhubarb festival happen."

"Your congregation's support helped turn rhubarb into hope!"

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.

Happy Birthday To Our Members in “September”

1	Carrie Gilbertson	18	Nancy Berntsen
2	Nancy Larrivy		Cade Jaros
5	Judy Giese		Tammy Nordwall
9	Hannah Prewit		Chris Swenson
10	Merlyn Dammer	22	Kammi Wietman
	Kevin Graves	24	Laura Anderson
	Jasper Nunez	28	Barbara Adamski
12	Julie Porter		Glory Eckard
15	Gavin Reid		Karen McClimek
16	Michelle Ahlberg	30	Darlene Mammenga
	Daniel Burud		Kristi Poissant

Monthly Happenings at Salem Lutheran Church



First Day of Sunday School is September 27th!

You may sign-up on Sunday the 27th .

Questions? Please contact Christy Jaros (jarosjd@yahoo.com)

or the Church Office! (218-727-1357; Closed Mondays)

Ladies' Night

We actually have two dates for September due to availability reasons.



Thursday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Picnic at Enger Park, we will meet there.

Bring your own picnic dinner. We will enjoy visiting and the beauty surrounding us!

If the weather does not allow for us to be outside, we will meet at church in the family room.

Sunday, September 27th at 1:30-3:00

We're going for a ride on the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad

This train goes along the St. Louis River. Snacks and beverages sold on the train with cash only.

We will meet down at the train at 6930 Fremont St.

You can buy your ticket online at duluthrivertrain.com



If you have any questions regarding these two activities, call Kim Settergren (218)341-3665

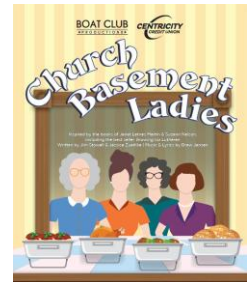
In addition, following is a suggestion that you may be interested in (*Kim will not be arranging a specific date for this event).

Boat Club Productions at Fitger's has a fun upcoming show!

Church Basement Ladies from October 1-11.

Tickets are available in September. Remember how good they were?!

Website address: <https://boatclubrestaurant> for tickets and information.



SALEM'S 11TH ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL!

Can you believe this is our 11th year for our Apple Festival???

This year's sale will be on October 24 from 9:00-3:00 and we need your help to ensure this is a great event! Some tasks that we will need help with are baking items for the bake sale, making caramel apples and tearing down after the sale. Lots of hands definitely make the work go quickly and we have fun doing it! Watch for sign-up lists starting in October or contact Lisa, Chris or Carol if you are willing to help out. All proceeds will go towards funding Salem's service projects. We do have a few outdoor vendor spots available—pass the word to anyone you know who may be interested!



APPLE CIDER PRESSING

Our cider pressing crew will be making the most delicious cider you've ever tasted on Saturday, October 17! If you are interested in the process or would like to help wash, cut, grind, press and bottle our harvest, feel free to stop by anytime between 9:00-3:00 that day. The crew will be set up in the lot behind the church. All ages are welcome!

Fall 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!

SALEM'S FINANCIAL PICTURE

July, 2026		Year to Date	
General Giving	\$16,175	General Giving	\$ 129,720
Expenses	\$16,382	Total Needed	\$ 133,190
Difference	- \$207.02	Difference	- \$3,470

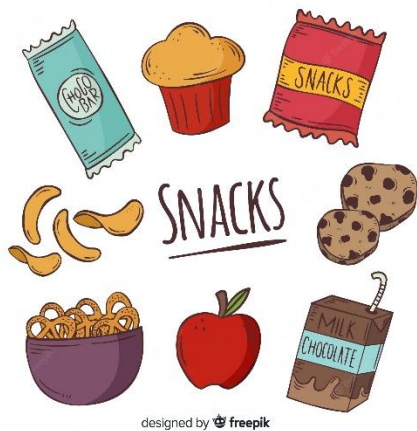
Council Updates August 2026

With fall and winter fast approaching, Faith Formation and Worship teams have set dates through December.

Generosity Team is looking at goals for the coming year.

Property Team has been working on needed repairs.

SEPTEMBER SNACK DRIVE



During the month of September, we will be collecting snacks for the students at Laura MacArthur Elementary School. Individually wrapped snacks work best, but all snacks are welcome. Some kid favorites include: fruit snacks, granola bars, goldfish, cereal bars, chips, applesauce pouches & fruit cups. We will bless the snacks at our Back To School service on September 27. Our last snack collection filled two cars—can we do it again??? Let's show our generosity!

***Salem's Council has approved an updated Kitchen Use & Cleaning Policy (Guidelines) they have been included in their entirety on the next page—if you are someone who uses or may use the kitchen, please look over them! If needed, copies are available in the church office!**

Kitchen Use & Cleaning Guidelines For Salem Lutheran Church

Shared Kitchen Space

- The kitchen is shared with Daycare and Daycare Catering. Please do not leave food, supplies, or personal items on counters or work surfaces.

Stove

- Wipe down the stove after each use.

Sinks, Dishwasher & Garbage Disposal

- After draining, clean and wipe down all sinks and dishwasher surfaces after use.
- Run the garbage disposal.
- Do not leave dishes, utensils, or other items in the drying racks or around the sinks.

Refrigerator & Freezer

- Only use the refrigerator for Salem use, located in the back pantry.
- Label all stored food with the date before placing it in the refrigerator or freezer. If they are leftovers, please do not leave them in the refrigerator for longer than 3 days, unless otherwise labeled.

Coffee Pots

- Empty, rinse, and drain coffee pots and filter baskets after use.

Counters, Tables & Equipment

- Wipe down all countertops, tables, and rolling carts with hot, soapy water and a clean cloth.
- Sanitize all food preparation areas with bleach solution. The solution is in a spray bottle located in the alcove above the sinks and is clearly labeled.
- Take used dishcloths and towels home for washing and return them promptly.

Food Safety

- Wash hands thoroughly before handling food.
- Wear gloves when handling food. Salem-use gloves are located in the back pantry.

Garbage & Recycling

- Place trash and recyclables in their designated containers.
- The recycling bin is located beneath the convection oven.
- Remove trash at the end of your event, to the outside dumpster, and replace it with a new bag.

Floors

- Sweep and mop the tiled floor area after use. A broom and Swiffer are in the storeroom (Frog Room).
- Vacuum as needed.

Youth Supervision

- Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult.

Cleaning Supplies

- Kitchen cleaning supplies are located on the top shelf of the right-side pantry, except for the disinfection spray, which is located in the alcove above the sinks.
- If supplies are running low, please notify the church office.

Final Thoughts

Thank you for helping to keep our shared kitchen clean and welcoming for everyone.

- If you make a mess, please clean it up.
- Leave the kitchen in the same condition—or better—than you found it.

Kitchen use guidelines 7/23/2026