Salem Lutheran Church

Salem's November Newsletter

November, 2026

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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.



Message from Pastor John

Greetings Everyone,

Throughout this fall we have been exploring the topic of generosity. As part of generosity there is an aspect of giving thanks. In November we celebrate Thanksgiving so to talk about generosity and giving thanks would be very appropriate for this month's newsletter article.

In celebrating Thanksgiving, we do so to remember the many things which we are thankful for in our life. Be it our health, family, work, finances, etc.. all of these areas have an opportunity to give thanks for. However, more than likely the reason why we might be thankful in those subjects are probably due to the generosity which we may have given or received the generosity of love and time within our family, the generosity of good employment and successful skills, or even the overall love and generosity which God gives to us on a daily bases. These are just some of the examples of which generosity and thankfulness can be connected.

In Scripture Paul writes in 2nd Corinthians 9:11 "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us." Paul reminds us in our overall faith that our generosity and thanksgiving especially to God our intertwined. That as we are generous, we become thankful for the experiences and opportunities which may come our way. Furthermore, I would say that such thanksgiving can also then lead to more generosity.

Which means giving thanks and generosity are not a linear action but a spherical one. To give thanks for generosity is in its nature then can move a person to be generous. Being generous then can also lead one to be thankful. Thankfulness and generosity are very much intertwined and should be encouraged always as a part of our lives. For one ultimately helps the other in living into the fullness of life.

So, as we explore generosity and celebrate Thanksgiving think of ways both have been part of your life. Has someone been generous lead to giving thanks or has your thankfulness lead to generosity. Maybe you were first generous and then were very thankful for it. Overall, there are many ways in which being thankful and generosity go together and make an impact within our lives. So, I encourage you to hold and engage in both generosity and giving thanks. May God's blessing be with you all. Amen.

Yours in Christ, Pastor John Ansell



Readings for November

Lectionary Year A/Year B



11/1/2026: All Saints Day Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

11/8/2026: Matthew 9:23-30

11/15/2026: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18,Psalm 90:1-12, 1Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew25:14-30

11/22/2026: Thanksgiving Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, Mattew 25:31-46

New Church Year Starts!
11/29/2026: Advent 1 Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7,17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

Worship Participants for November

	1	8	15	22	29 
Lead Comm	Sharon Szamatula	Judy Giese	Sharon Szamatula		
Reader	Nancy Larrivy	Nancy Berntsen	Sophie Wietman	Christy Jaros	Richard Petersson

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.

THANK YOU!



A great big THANK YOU to Whoopsa-Daisy Farm ! For allowing our Sunday School students to take pictures with their animals in preparation for the Christmas Program!





1 Rauri Byrnes
Karen Koshere
2 Bodin Reno
Breckin Warfield
3 Billy Peterson
Bob Szybnski
4 Camden Black
5 Kayla Lilyquist
7 Grace Schramm
8 Alexa Peterson
9 Betty McDonald
11 Karen Bastianelli
Bart Porter
12 Ian Lorsung
Mark Peterson
Donna Thorsten

14 Anita Paulson
16 Aurora Green
Chris Rollins
17 Karen Swason
Joan Swanstrom
21 Maria Karon
23 Sandra Dammer
Bev Elstad
24 Sara Borndal
25 Olivia Pipho
28 Marilyn Hanson
Lois Palm
Desiree Wood

Happy Birthday!

More “Thank You”s!



'Thanks to a generous donation and the efforts of the Nickles family, Eric Settergren, Bob Bastianelli, Jason Jaros, and the Salem maintenance committee many Fall maintenance projects have been completed including driveway repair, parking lot line painting, replacing the baseboard trim on the addition, and a new emergency egress stairway from the Sunday school room. Great job!'

LIFE HOUSE
Duluth

Dear Jan and Quilting Friends at Salem Lutheran,
Thank you for your generous contribution to our mission of reconnecting youth with their dreams...
We received your gift or 27 beautiful handmade quilts and a few handmade pillows on 10/2/2026. Your generous contribution will help us make a first apartment a home for many of the young people we serve. Thank you!

Monthly Happenings at Salem Lutheran Church

Please see the thank you to Whoopsa-Daisy Farm in this newsletter. The photos for the Christmas program turned out great!



Sunday School will be meeting, Sunday, November 8 and Sunday, November 22. Youth will be participating in the worship service on the 22nd as well, it is the Thanksgiving service!

Ladies Night
A Ladies Night outing for November/December is being researched and planned! Please keep your eye on the bulletin and website to see what fun is planned!



RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet for the Month of November on the 10th (notice the week change due to the election!) Please meet at 1:00 at Judy Hane's, 4035 Lavaque.

SALEM'S FINANCIAL PICTURE

September, 2026 Year to Date

General Giving $17,819	General Giving $ 166,080
Expenses $18,920	Total Needed $ 166,267
Difference - $1,101	Difference - $187

Council Updates October 2026

- Please see "Thank you" in this newsletter for all the property work that's been happening
- The Employee Handbook is being updated
- There are two students registered for Faith Formation
- The Generosity Team has written a letter to go out to the congregation

Don't forget to "fall back" on October 31st!
You don't want to miss worship!



