



*Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God by teaching His timeless Truth,
that all may grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.*

This Week at Salem

- Sun, 12/4** 8am Worship
9:15am Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday JAM Children's Ministry
10:30am Worship
12:15pm Handbell Practice
- Mon, 12/5** 6:30pm Bible Basics Class
- Tues, 12/06** 10:10am Bible Growth Group
7pm Outreach Committee Meeting
- Wed, 12/07** 9:30am Chapel
4pm Advent Service - Gr K-1
5pm Advent Supper
6:00pm Catechism
6:30pm Sr Choir
7:15pm Men's Chorus
- Thur, 12/8** 6pm Preschool Christmas Service
- Fri, 12/9** 5:30pm Salem Home Basketball Games (3 games)
- Sat, 12/10** 5:00pm Worship w/communion
- Sun, 12/11** 8am Worship w/communion
9:15am Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday JAM Children's Ministry
10:30am Worship w/communion
12pm Salem Social Group Christmas Dinner

Giving

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$12,046.23 for Current Expenses and \$1,630.00 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

Growing

Christmas for Kids - 9am-12:30pm, December 17th

Time is running out to sign up to help with Christmas for Kids AND to invite friends and neighbors to join in the fun. All children ages 3 years old to 6th grade are invited to spend the morning with us, beginning at 9:00am. Children will see the Christmas story in devotions, crafts and other activities. At noon, adults are invited to join us for lunch and a brief Christmas program filled with scripture and Christmas carols. There is no cost to attend, but we ask you to register at www.salemlutheran.org/christmas to help us plan for materials and help.

There are just a few more spots open to help with Christmas for kids.

You can sign up on the sheet in the entry or you can sign up online at the direct link www.salemlutheran.org/serve.

Salem Growth Group Openings

Salem's Growth Groups provide a way for members to connect with each other and to Christ as they meet 2-4 times a month at members' homes or online. We're happy to see a new group begin last month and happy to share that two groups are looking for more members

Both the Ibisch group and the Thomforde group welcome couples or individuals from any stage of life to join them. You can learn more about growth groups at our church website. If you'd like to try out a growth group email growthgroups@salemlutheran.org.

Youth Gathering

The next Youth Gathering is scheduled for December 18th from 1-2:30 PM. All 7th through 12th graders are welcome to join us as we have a devotion, eat snacks, and play games. Hope to see you there!

Don't forget to pick up your Advent Devotion Book from Martin Luther College – they are on the communion sign-up table in the Narthex!

Serving

Caring Committee Giving Tree

Salem's Caring Committee has identified 7 families who would benefit from gifts by our members this year. "Ornament" tags are hanging on lights hung next to the entry into the sanctuary. Each tag has a gift you can donate for a member of these families. There are quite a few tags left - be sure to take one if you are able to help! Gifts need to be brought to the church office by December 18 so we can give them out for Christmas. Thank you!

Greeters

Door Greeter sign-up sheets have been redesigned. You may sign-up thru Feb. 2023. If you have a church service you generally attend, you may get those dates all signed up for in advance. You get to smile 😊 & say welcome as ambassadors for Christ.

We Need A Little Help for One of Salem's Families

The Herbst family has a little boy (Everett) who is 1 year old and has been in and out of the hospital the past few weeks. The Caring Committee asked if they need help with anything. They could use help with some gas gift cards for the travels to the Hospital and doctor appointments and could use some Cub Foods Gift cards so they can order take home meals when they need to. If you would like to help, please leave your donations in the church office and we will make sure they get them. Thank you very much for your help!

Do you love Christmas baking?

If so, please consider making a few cookies to donate for Salem's Christmas Bake Sale! All proceeds go toward the SPTO (Salem Parent Teacher Organization). SPTO supports our school plan and fund special projects and activities not in the regular budget.

Baked goods will be sold after the Advent Service on Wednesday, Dec.14th, at the Basketball games on Friday the 16th, and after church services Sunday the 18th.If you would like to donate baked goods, please put them on the cart near the school office prior to December 13th.

Not into baking but still want to participate? There are two options: 1) We are accepting store-bought goodies! 2) We need 1-2 volunteers for each date to work at the sale. Please contact Darcie Schmitz Tessmer at 612-801-6122 or darcieschmitztessmer@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping!

Uniting

Saturday Social Night

In November a group of members began hosting adult volleyball on Saturday nights in our school gym each week at 6:15pm. Some other members noted that they'd like to gather for fun and fellowship but prefer a more "casual" effort. Starting this week, Saturday evening social time isn't just for volleyball players anymore. Bring a favorite board or card game. We'll provide the popcorn. And we'll enjoy getting to know even more new and familiar friends.

WELS Travel Tour or Theatre Tix through MLC

The Martin Luther College alumni office invites all WELS members to join a group attending the Dec. 10 matinee of *Les Misérables* at the Orpheum Theatre in Minneapolis. (Including Pastor Wolfe and his family!) Tickets are just \$35. You are also welcome to join a March 1-12 travel tour to visit Southern CA, Grand Canyon West, the Mighty Five Utah national parks, and the Colorado Rockies. For more information or to register, visit bit.ly/lesmis22 (theatre) or bit.ly/la2nu (tour) or contact coordinator Steve Balza (alumni@mlc-wels.edu or 507-217-1731).

Lost and Found

A ring was found after worship several weeks ago and turned into the office. The markings on the aquamarine ring are 928 RSG. If this is your ring and you can describe it, please call or email the school office so we can return it to you.

In our prayers this week:

- For blessings of healing and companionship to all in need at this blessed, but challenging, time of year
- For strength and health to students and teachers battling illnesses in schools and preschools
- For St. Croix Lutheran Academy, that students would be blessed through Christian education and led to a life of Christian faith and service.