



*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, 9/17** 8 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Mission Trip Presentation
10:30 am Worship
11:45 pm Pastor Call Meeting
- Mon, 9/18** 6:30 pm Bible Basics
- Tues, 9/19** 10:15 am Bible Study
4 pm Salem School Home Volleyball
6:30 pm Church Council Meeting
- Wed. 9/20** 9:15 am School Chapel
9:30 am Women's Bible Study
1 pm Oak Ridge Place Devotion
6:30 pm Catechism
6:30 pm Church Choir Practice
7:15 pm Men's Chorus & Handbells
- Sat, 9/23** 5 pm Worship w/communion
6:15 pm Teen & Adult Volleyball
- Sun, 9/24** 8 am Worship w/communion
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Bible Study
10:30 am Worship w/communion

Serving & Sharing in Faith

Greeter Signup

Greeters are an important part of establishing a welcoming and friendly atmosphere for members and visitors alike. Plus, all it takes is a smile, a little time, and getting to church a bit earlier than usual. We've created a new way to sign up to be a greeter. Just go to www.salemlutheran.org/greeters and you can pick an open spot. You'll receive an automatic reminder email a couple days before you're scheduled to serve. Thank you for helping us make Salem a friendly place and people!

Grandparents Day

Salem Lutheran School is hosting Grandparents Day on September 29th! We welcome any church members who would like to attend and be a grandparent to one of our students that morning. Registration and breakfast are 8:30 - 9:15 am. Chapel and classroom time to follow. Students will be dismissed at noon. If you would like to be a "fill-in grandparent" please contact the school office to sign up.

Uniting in Faith

Basketball & Volleyball Fellowship

Salem now has two “sporty” options for members to enjoy time with each other. Saturday evenings at 6:30pm teens and adults are invited to play coed indoor volleyball in the gym. Members of all skill levels are welcome. Men are invited to a men’s pickup basketball night on Monday evenings at 7pm. Both of these activities are open to nonmembers too, so feel free to bring a friend to play too.

Salem School Volleyball Games

The volleyball season has begun for our Salem Saints. It is off to a great start with two wins for our girls A team. Their teamwork is an incredible thing to watch. Our young B team is working hard to learn their new volleyball skills as well. The Saints would like to invite you to watch and cheer them on at the upcoming home games on **Tuesday, September 19**, A team at 4:00, B team at 4:40, and another A team game at 5:10. Cheer on the Saints as they take on Crown of Life Berea. We hope you will be there!

Growing in Faith

Study the Bible - Grow in Faith!

The return of fall means the return of various Bible study opportunities at Salem. Our growth groups continue throughout the year, meeting in small groups at people’s homes to discuss the weekly sermon message and other topics. Email Pastor Wolfe (rwolfe@salemlutheran.org) if you’d like to get connected to a current group or are interested in hosting one of your own.

- **Women’s Study:** Women of Salem (and guests) are invited to join our women’s study in the fireside room on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30am. Women’s study meets this Wednesday to begin our look at the book *Freedom in Forgiveness* by Time of Grace Pastor Mike Novotny. Women of all ages are welcome.
- **Men’s Study:** Men of Salem (and guests) are invited to enjoy breakfast and Bible study at Gorman’s restaurant, on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8am. This member-led study will continue our series on basic bible truths.
- **Sunday Morning Study:** Too often, skeptics of the Christian faith attack what we believe by arguing that the Bible is too old to even be able to say we know what the original was. Unprepared Christians might not be ready to offer a defense. This year’s Sunday study begins with a series on how the Bible came to be, how it was preserved through the centuries, and how to defend it when faced with challenges. The first study in this series will begin October 1st.
- **Tuesday Morning Study:** Tuesday mornings at 10:15am Salem members gather for our primary midweek Bible study. This study meets in our regular schedule AND summer, and the Bible study can be accessed online or by phone by clicking on the study’s entry in our church calendar online. The group is currently looking at the commandments as they continue an adult-level study of Catechism truths. All are welcome.
- **Bible Basics:** The next session of Bible Basics on Monday evenings begins next Monday, September 18th. In this 10-week study we’ll cover the most important teachings of the Bible, as well as look for God’s answers to questions participants bring themselves. Bible Basics is a great refresher for members of all ages and a perfect introduction to what we believe for your family and friends. This study also serves as Salem’s membership intro class. If you would like to attend or want to invite someone you know to attend please contact Pastor Wolfe (rwolfe@salemlutheran.org).

Mission Trip Presentation

During the Bible study hour this Sunday, Clay and Andy Raasch will give a presentation on a mission trip they took in 2022 to share the Gospel with Mormons as part of *Truth in Love Ministries*. Join us in the fellowship hall to hear their experiences and God’s Word at work. *Truth in Love* pastor Mark Parsons will be our guest preacher at Salem’s Mission Festival October 15th.

Camp Croix Women's Retreat – Registration is Open!

This October 6-8 at Camp Croix! Rest, relax, rejuvenate, and grow closer to Jesus with your fellow sisters in Christ. Head to campcroix.org/womens-retreat to learn more and to register.

St. Croix LWMS – Fall Rally

Rally Location: St. Croix Lutheran Academy, West St. Paul - 1200 Oakdale Ave - West St Paul MN, 55118

When: Sunday, October 1, 2023 Starting time: 1 – 2 pm (Registration) 2 pm (Rally Begins)

Snacks will be provided. Come and see the displays of some of the WELS Missions located locally. Our guest speakers will be Pastor Tim and Jennifer Otto of St. John Lutheran St. Paul, MN. They will speak about their outreach to the Hispanic community in St Paul. Rebecca will give her perspective as a pastor's wife and speak on her work with New Day Pregnancy and Resource Center.

Giving in Faith

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$15,889.89 for Current Expenses and \$264.59 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

India Mission Update

Normally at this time of year the Caring Committee organizes a support effort for the WELS India Mission School. Sadly, there is no longer a need for donations due to persecution and a change in ministry focus because of it. Read the paragraph below from a letter sent out from WELS World Missions and pray for the children and Christians in India.

“We want to make you aware of a shift in ministry by India’s confessional Lutheran church that has them discontinuing support for orphanages. In recent years India’s government has moved toward Hindu nationalism. “Western” orphanage work has come under scrutiny. Meanwhile, the number of orphans served by the church in India has dwindled. These factors have the church in India discontinuing work with orphanages while focusing on their core mission of providing biblical training for national pastors.”

In our prayers this week

- For gratitude for God’s forgiveness to us, and maturity in faith to forgive others.
- For Christians in India and elsewhere who face persecution and danger for their faith.
- For deliverance, healing, and help to all who look to God and his Church in times of need.