



*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, 10/22** 8 am Worship w/communion
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Bible Study
10:30 am Worship w/communion
- Mon, 10/23** 6:30 pm Bible Basics
- Tues, 10/24** 10:15 am Bible Study
- Wed. 10/25** 9:15 am Chapel
6:30 am Evening Catechism
6:30 pm Church Choir Practice
7:15 pm Men's Chorus and Handbells
- Sat, 10/28** 9 am Youth Group Raking
5 pm Worship
6:15 pm Teen & Adult Volleyball
- Sun, 10/29** 8 am Worship
9:15 am Quarterly Voters Meeting & Sunday JAM
10:30 am Worship
4 pm Trunk or Treat

IMPORTANT Congregational Meeting - October 29th

Salem's regular quarterly meeting is scheduled between services next Sunday, October 29th. There are two very important items on the agenda. The first item is the introduction of a new constitution and bylaws. The new constitution (modeled after the new WELS model for church constitutions) is intended to give more members, both men and women, opportunities to use their gifts in service to the Lord while remaining faithful to Scriptural principles. Members will have time to review the new constitution before a vote at our January congregational meeting.

The second item on the agenda is a proposal from our worship committee and church council to consolidate Sunday services from two to one. The new schedule would leave Saturday service as is, but combine to one worship service Sunday morning at 9am with a Bible study hour at 10:30am. There are a few reasons for the proposal, including:

- 1) Current attendance Sunday morning does not usually need two services. (Averaging 55 & 112 each)
- 2) One service makes scheduling of musicians, choirs, greeters, ushers, and vestry significantly easier.
- 3) One service would provide some relief for our pastor during our vacancy.
- 4) One service would allow more members to meet and encourage one another.
- 5) One service would give us the option to hold Bible study in the sanctuary, allowing us to stream and record Bible studies for those unable to attend in person.
- 6) Having one service would allow meetings and fellowship meals after worship to extend longer and perhaps increase participation.
- 7) If extended into the summer, one service would allow a shortened Bible study time after worship.

Members will vote on this proposal at the meeting on October 29th. If approved, we would make the change on December 3rd. The proposal recognizes that if attendance would increase to the point that the church is uncomfortably full we could return to the current schedule at any time.

Pastor Call Update & New Meeting Scheduled

Pastor Schmoller has returned our associate pastor call. Read his letter at the end of the announcements. We will have a **call meeting Monday, October 30th at 6 pm**. Extending a call before November 2nd will allow us to call a second time before Christmas if the first call is returned.

Teacher Call

Salem 4th grade teacher Tom Stob received a divine call last week to serve as 7th & 8th grade teacher and Athletic Director at St. Peter's Lutheran School in Sturgeon Bay, WI. Please keep Mr. Stob and his family in prayer as they deliberate where they can serve the Lord.

Growing in Faith

Sunday JAM This Week

Sunday JAM for kids ages 3 to grade 6 continues! This week children will learn about the life of Joseph - a man sold by his jealous brothers, falsely accused and imprisoned, but raised up by God to deliver nations from famine and death. Sunday JAM starts at 9:15am in the sanctuary.

Sunday JAM Christmas Preview

Children ages 3 to grade 6 will present a "Christmas Preview" as part of our worship service on December 17th. Children will share a part of the Christmas account from Luke 2, sing songs, and get us ready to welcome the newborn king. All children of Salem are encouraged to attend Sunday JAM and prepare for this special way of celebrating our Savior's birth.

Area Reformation Service

Christ Lutheran Church in North St. Paul (2485 17th Ave E) invites Salem members and friends to an area Reformation Service on Sunday, November 5th at 4:30 pm. Refreshments will be served after the celebration. Teens and adults interested in singing or playing can email ddbbaumeister@gmail.com for more information. Music rehearsals will be the day of the service - instrumentalists at 1:30pm and choir at 2:45pm.

Serving & Sharing in Faith

Trunk or Treat - October 29th

Salem's "Trunk or Treat" event is next Sunday (October 29th) from 4-6pm. We would love to have a couple more cars to help make this a great event for our kids and community. Talk to Pastor Wolfe, Ryan Klatt, or Outreach chair Dave Wurst to learn more. Sign up online at www.salemlutheran.org/trunkortreat.

Youth Service Project - Rake-A-Difference!

Next Saturday (October 28th) Salem teens and families will help our community by raking yards for people in need. We will start raking our first yard at 9 am with a second yard to do after that. Meet at 814 Everett Street North, Stillwater MN for the first yard, and bring any rakes and/or work gloves you may have. Please let Rachel Collins know if you are planning on helping! (612-483-9197 or r.collins005@gmail.com)

Uniting in Faith

Salem Spirit Wear

Our church and school are making Salem spirit wear available again! Support our church and school and create opportunities to share our church and Savior at the same time. Examples will be available to see and feel soon but the web store is already open at www.salemlutheran.org/clothes. Orders can be placed until November 8th.

Church Picture Directory - Picture schedule slots are open!

Slots for directory photos are filling up quickly, with only about 40 left. Pictures will be taken the week of Thanksgiving (November 20, 21, 22, and 25th.) Each pictured member will receive a free printed directory and a free 8x10 portrait. To reserve a time go to www.salemlutheran.org/photos. Enter **mn422** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" Field. You can also sign up by paper in the church entry before and after worship. (Online signups are locked between 5pm Saturdays and Sunday afternoons to allow for in-person signup at church services.)

Butter Braid Fundraiser for Class Trip

The Salem 8th grade class is selling Butter Braids! Contact a Salem School 8th grader to order or sign up at the church information table or school office. Order by November 7th to be delivered on November 20th. Thank you!

Ladies' Advent By Candlelight

Salem will again hold an Advent By Candlelight Sunday, December 3, from 1 to 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is "Prepare My Heart, O Lord" and attendees will meditate on the message of the Advent candles. There will be food, music, devotions and Christian fellowship as we prepare for Christ's birth. Mark your calendar and watch for a signup sheet in the entry in a few weeks.

Salem Social Group Thanksgiving Dinner

The Salem Social Group will host a Thanksgiving Dinner at the Lowell Inn on November 23rd. All adults are welcome to join us. The cost is \$36 per person. Time is 1:00 pm. There is a signup sheet on the information table in the narthex and the deadline to sign up is Sunday, 11/19. **NOTE: If you sign up & then are a no show, our group will be charged \$20/no show. We will pay it for you, but you must pay us back.** If you have any questions, contact George Smolinski at gsmolin@earthlink.net or 651-334-6055.

Giving in Faith

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$11,290.84 for Current Expenses and \$490.62 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

2024 Offering envelopes are ready to be picked up!

If you use offering envelopes, be sure to pick yours up. If you need envelopes contact the church office.

Sister Ministries

St. Croix Lutheran Academy (SCLA) Events

The SCLA Chili/Pie Fundraiser and Fall Concert is Sunday, October 29th at 4:30pm. This is the first concert of the year for SCLA choirs and bands. Attend in person or watch the livestream at www.StCroixLutheran.org/fallconcert.

SCLA's Festival of Seasons Craft and Bake Sale is scheduled for Saturday, November 11th from 9am to 3pm. Handmade items and more will be available! Vendor registration closes Oct 29. For more information go to www.StCroixLutheran.org/fos.

In our prayers this week

- For those who lead in authority, that God would guide them to lead with integrity and humility.
- For those who live under authority, that we give honor, respect, and obedience as God directs us.
- For blessing, healing, and hope for all who suffer illness and injury.

Call Return Letter from Pastor Schmoller

October 18, 2023

Salem Lutheran Church
14940 62nd St North
Stillwater, MN 55082

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Allow me to express my gratitude for the countless number of prayers that have been offered to our Lord during the last weeks as I contemplated the two calls I currently hold. I appreciated the people who took time to email and speak with me and share their thoughts. Through this calling process he has led me to catch a glimpse of the great blessings and opportunities that his Gospel-work is producing in two corners of the visible church at the same time. That is a rare and tremendous blessing—one that has produced in me a deep awe and appreciation for his work in both Stillwater and at Martin Luther College in New Ulm.

I have given serious and prayerful deliberation to the call extended to me to serve as an associate pastor at Salem Lutheran Church in Stillwater. It has been a difficult process, but one through which the Lord has greatly blessed my family and me. I wrestled with the Lord's call. In the end, however, I am asked to choose between two good things, two blessings.

After much prayerful consideration, and contemplating the needs at both places, I have decided to continue serving as professor at Martin Luther College. I feel as though I still have work to do here as a professor and I am still enthusiastic for and blessed by the opportunity to prepare and impact the next generation of called workers here. I pray that the Lord would continue to bless our ministries, although separated by many miles, still united in faith and mission, as we share the gospel of our Savior. I also pray that at the right time, God will send a pastor to Salem.

May the Lord continue to bless us as we work in his kingdom!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Nicolas Schmoller