



*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, 11/26** 8 am Worship w/communion
9:15 am Adult Bible Study & Sunday JAM
10:30 am Worship w/communion
- Mon, 11/27** 6:30 pm Bible Basics
7 pm Community Men's Basketball
- Tues, 11/28** 10:15 am Bible Study
- Wed. 11/29** 9:30 am Chapel
12:30 pm Oak Ridge Place Bible Study
6:30 pm Catechism
6:30 pm Choir Practice
7:15 pm Handbells & Men's Chorus
- Sat, 12/2** 8 am Men's Bible Study at Gorman's
5 pm Worship
6:15 pm Teen & Adult Volleyball
- Sun, 12/3** 8 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Guest Speaker Presentation
10:30 am Worship
1 pm Advent by Candlelight

Call Updates

Salem has extended a call to Pastor Matthew Kiecker who is currently serving St John's Lutheran in Lomira WI. You are welcome to contact him by phone (219-309-6021) or email pastor@stjohnslomira.com.

Salem School Principal Ryan Klatt has received a divine call to serve as principal at Wisconsin Lutheran School in Racine, WI. Please feel free to share your thoughts with Mr. Klatt. Keep both in your prayers as they deliberate God's calls.

Salem Social Media

Follow our church on Facebook and Instagram for behind-the-scenes peeks, moments with God's word, and all the latest news. You can help us get the message out by liking, commenting and sharing our posts. If you have any questions, please contact Abigail Ibisch. (aibisch@salemlutheran.org) We welcome comments, ideas, and suggestions for things you'd like to see on our page. We have two accounts each:

Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church AND Salem Lutheran School

Instagram: @Salem.lutheran (Church account) AND @salemlutheranmn (School account)

Worship Schedule comments

Salem's leaders heard and appreciate all the thoughts shared at the last quarterly meeting about our worship schedule and possible changes. As we work together to make decisions best for our ministry we welcome your comments emailed to worship@salemlutheran.org.

Growing in Faith

Advent Devotion Books

Every year our college of ministry training, Martin Luther College, produces Advent devotional books. Salem has purchased a supply of this year's devotions, titled "The Mysteries of Christmas" for members to enjoy. Pick up your copy in the church entry. Devotions begin December 1st.

Sunday JAM This Week

Sunday JAM for kids ages 3 to grade 6 continues! This week children learn how God delivered his people during the time of the Judges through an unexpected leader named Gideon. Sunday JAM starts at 9:15am in the Salem school Kindergarten room.

Worship Next Week

Next weekend, Pastor James Mattek will be our guest preacher and Bible study leader. He will speak about the healing and helping ministries of Christian Family Solutions, which include Christian counseling, in-home care services, and senior living solutions. Pastor Mattek has served this ministry since 2004. As Director of Ministry, Pastor Mattek provides doctrinal leadership and works in mission advancement. To learn more about Christian Family Solutions, please visit www.ChristianFamilySolutions.org.

Christmas & New Year's Worship schedule

Every 5-12 years Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, as it does this year. Because of the timing of special services Salem's regular weekend schedule will change. There will be NO service Saturday, December 23rd and one special service Sunday morning, December 24th at 9am. This service will be based on the "O Antiphons" made famous in the hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" and will feature Salem leaders and elders as readers.

Christmas Eve special services will be offered Sunday at 3 & 5pm. Our Christmas Day celebration will be held Monday the 25th at 10am with communion.

Worship on the weekend of New Year's Eve will follow our normal schedule, with communion celebrated at this special 5th Sunday of the month. A short devotional service will be held on New Year's Eve at 4:30 for any who wish to attend.

Serving & Sharing in Faith

Sign up to serve

Put your faith into action and help our church do the work God gives to us! Sign up as a worship greeter, a worship tech helper, or give your time at Christmas for Kids. Sign up at www.salemlutheran.org/serve.

Christmas for Kids - December 9th (9am-12:30pm) - Registration open for kids and helpers!

Children ages 3 years old to 6th grade are invited to spend the morning at Christmas for Kids. Everyone should arrive between 8:30-8:45 am to register so we can start the fun at 9 am! We will share the Christmas story in devotions, crafts and other activities. At noon, adults are invited to join us for a lasagna lunch donated by Olive Garden and a brief Christmas program filled with scripture and Christmas carols that will wrap you in the warmth and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. There is no cost to attend. Online registration is open at www.salemlutheran.org/christmas23. Don't forget to invite friends and neighbors!

If you would like to help, you can sign up on the sheet in the entry or sign up online using the links at www.salemlutheran.org/serve.

Caring Committee Christmas Tree

There are only a few tags left for the Christian Life Ministries New Day families who need help this Christmas. Take a tag, purchase the gift, attach the tag to the wrapped gift and return to the table or to the church office. **GIFTS MUST BE BROUGHT BACK BY DECEMBER 3**

Food Shelf – The Need Is GREAT

Salem members are invited to bring unexpired food items for collection during Thanksgiving week from November 18th to November 26th. If you would like to donate via a check, please make the check out to Valley Outreach noting Food Shelf on the memo line. Thank you for showing love to those in need!

Final Numbers for School Doors

At the end of this summer, the Washington county police department toured our facility. They reviewed our safety procedures and advised us on security upgrades. One that they recommended was a shatterproof film for the school doors. This would give our students and faculty more time in the case of an intruder. The final cost for this upgrade is \$11,000. If you are interested in supporting this project or if you have any further questions, please contact Principal Ryan Klatt.

Caring Committee is Collecting Items for the CAMM

The Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM), a 60-year legacy of Christ-centered health care in Zambia and Malawi, supports the Gospel ministry carried out by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in partnership with the Lutheran Church of Central Africa (LCCA). Nearly 80,000 patients are served annually.

CAMM is not funded by the synod but instead relies upon donations from individuals, churches, schools and other organizations to fund its operations. We also receive many gift parcels, often from women's groups and LWMS chapters, containing pill bottles (which we use for liquid medications), baby hats, blankets and onesies which are given to newborns at our clinics. Learn more at www.cammm.us

The Caring Committee is collecting plastic prescription bottles (washed & labels off), knit dishcloths, knit or sewn baby caps (0-6 months), baby /Children's Socks. For more items they can use take a list from the information table or call Janet Rider with any questions on how you may help CAMM
Ridersusa@comcast.com 651-439-0584. There will be a collection box on the food shelf case.

Uniting in Faith

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 women and girls of all ages 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. There is a sign up sheet in the entry. Sign up by November 22 to reserve a seat.

Salem Social Group Christmas Dinner

The Salem Social Group will host a Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 10, at Afton House Inn, Main Dining Room. Arrival time is 11:45 AM - 12:30 PM. You do not need to be a member of Salem or the Social Group to attend this dinner or any SSG events. You just need to be college age or older and want to have fun. You are welcome to bring adult family or friends. Please join us for some fun and fellowship. Buffet Dinner includes Beef Marsala, Chicken in Lemon Caper Sauce, Mostaccioli, Salads & Sides. More information on the signup sheet in the narthex. Deadline for signup is Sunday, 11/26. If you have questions, please call (651-334-6055) or email us at gsmolin@earthlink.net

Young Adults Outing

The young adults (18-30ish) are planning to go tubing at Badlands in Hudson on the 17th of December around 1pm. Please let Robyn Collins 715-781-1106 or Mike Wurst 715-417-0310 know if you would like to go and/or would like a ride.

Salem Social Group New Year's Eve Dinner 2023

The Salem Social Group will host a New Year's Eve Dinner on Sunday, December 31, at Golden Crown Chinese Restaurant. Arrival time is after the 4:30 PM church service, 5:30 – 5:45 PM. You do not need to be a member of Salem or the Social Group to attend this dinner or any SSG events. You just need to be college age or older. You are welcome to bring adult family or friends. If you have nothing planned, come join us for the service and dinner afterward. The signup sheet is on the information table in the narthex. Deadline for signup is Sunday, 12/24. If you have questions, please call (651-334-6055) or email at gsmolin@earthlink.net

Women's Guild

Salem Women's Guild will host our annual Christmas Party/Potluck December 7, at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall for all the ladies of the congregation. All are encouraged to bring money for Valley Outreach food shelf. If bringing a check, make it out to Valley Outreach and indicate "food shelf" on the memo line or it goes to their general fund. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for you to sign up if you plan to come.

Giving in Faith

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$15,232.19 for Current Expenses and \$844.59 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

Free Metal Folding Chairs

A special donation has allowed us to get new updated folding chairs. The old metal ones are available to members to take. If you would like a few chairs feel free to take them. They are located by the Fellowship doors, under the coat rack.

Salem Youth Group

Youth Group Instagram

Salem's Youth Group is also on Instagram! Ellie Ross has gotten our account up and running again. Use the code on the right to start following it!



@SALEMSTILLWATERYOUTHGROUP

International Youth Rally Planning

The WELS biennial Youth Rally is June 25-8, 2024 in Fort Collins, CO. It is open to all current 8th -12th graders. If your teen is interested in attending, please sign up on this [Interest Form](#) or contact Rachel Collins (r.collins005@gmail.com, 612-483-9197) so we can begin working on plans. Official registration will be in March, but we need to have finances and plans ready by then! Parents, if you want to consider being a chaperone, Rachel would also like to know that!

December Youth Group Party

The December Youth Group meeting will be Dec 10th from 6:30-8 pm. We will have a white elephant gift exchange, so bring something funny, cheap, or re-gifted, and wrapped! We will also have some Christmas games, possibly make Christmas Cards, and have some yummy treats.

Youth Group Help Wanted

Request for help with Youth Events: Anyone interested in helping plan a winter lock-in for the youth (date TBD) or help with fundraising for the June WELS Youth Rally, please contact Rachel Collins (r.collins005@gmail.com, 612-483-9197).

Sister Ministries

Now Hiring - Immediate Opening Cornerstone Early Learning Center in Hugo

Our sister church is looking to hire a Childare Administrative Assistant with flexible hours (25-40hr/wk). Starting rate \$15-20/hr. Responsibilities include planning and assisting Cornerstone events, working with the Director and HR on staff hiring, training, file management, and staff morale processes. If you are comfortable subbing in the classroom, that is a bonus, but not required! To apply, please email Crystal at elcadmin@christlutheran.us or Stefanie Hill at director@christlutheran.us. Cornerstone Early Learning Center is a ministry of Christ Lutheran Church of North St. Paul and Hugo, located at 4790 Rosemary Way, Hugo, MN 55038.

In our prayers this week

- For grateful hearts and hands focused on the grace of God in Jesus our Savior
- For members and friends of Salem who struggle in physical and mental health
- For those who lead in government to act with integrity and humility