



*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, 12/10** 8 am Worship w/ communion  
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Bible Study  
10:30 am Worship w/ communion  
1:30 pm Salem Social Group Dinner (Appetizers at 12:30pm)  
6:30 pm Youth Group Gathering
- Mon, 12/11** 6:30 pm Bible Basics Class  
7:00 pm Community Men's Basketball
- Tues, 12/12** 10:15 am Bible Study  
4:30 pm Fellowship Committee  
6 pm Elder's Committee  
6:30 pm Education Committee  
7 pm Worship Committee
- Wed. 12/13** 9:30 am Chapel  
12:30 pm Oak Ridge Place Bible Study  
4 pm Advent Service (Gr K-1)  
5 pm Advent Meal  
6:00 pm Pastor Call Meeting  
6:30 pm Catechism  
6:30 pm Choir Practice  
7:15 pm Handbells & Men's Chorus
- Sat, 12/15** 5 pm Worship  
6:15 pm Teen & Adult Volleyball
- Sun, 12/16** 8 am Worship  
9:15 am Sunday JAM & Bible Study  
10:30 am Worship

### **Call Updates**

Salem principal Ryan Klatt has returned his call to Racine, meaning he will continue to serve children and families here with us. A pastoral call meeting will be held this Wednesday, December 13th at 6pm to extend another call for an associate pastor.

### **Worship Schedule Comments**

Salem's leaders appreciated 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](mailto:worship@salemlutheran.org).

### **Poinsettias for the Altar for Christmas**

We are offering the opportunity for people to remember someone special by placing poinsettias in their memory on the altar for Christmas. There are envelopes in the entry for optional donations to offset the cost of the flowers. Please return to the church office by Sunday, December 17.

# ***Growing in Faith***

## **Sunday JAM This Week**

Sunday JAM for kids ages 3 to grade 6 continues! This week children learn about David, the great King of Israel and ancestor of Jesus. Sunday JAM starts at 9:15am in the School Kindergarten room.

## **Midweek Advent Services**

The second of three special midweek advent services will be this Wednesday. This week the Kindergarten and 1st graders lead the service. The fellowship meal after the service is sloppy joes served by the women's guild. We hope you'll join us!

## **Advent Devotion Books**

This year's Advent devotions, titled "The Mysteries of Christmas" are available in the entry. Devotions began December 1st but there's plenty of time to benefit from them before Christmas.

## **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 on 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](http://www.salemlutheran.org/serve).

## **Christmas Day Instrumental Carolers**

You are invited to come to Salem's Christmas Day service a little early to sing Christmas carols before worship, starting at 9:45am. We welcome instrument players to play along while we sing. Instrumentalists will meet in church at 9:20am on Christmas Day to go over what we will play. You can find music books for flute, oboe, clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, trumpet, French horn, trombone, and tuba on the table in the entry. Each music book also has a brief description of how we will organize the music in it. Please sign the participation sheet when you pick up your music so that we know what instruments we will have. If you have any questions, contact Roger Zolldan at 651-216-7462 (call/text) or email him at [rzolldan@comcast.net](mailto:rzolldan@comcast.net). Thank you for helping us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

## **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.

### **Church Parking Request**

You may have noticed that parking gets a little tight in our lot for worship services. This makes it harder for some of our senior members and less welcoming for our visitors. We invite our younger members to park in the lower parking lot if they are able. You can enter through the side door of the church and come up the stairs or use the elevator. This will be a great service to our elders and visitors. Thank you!

## ***Uniting in Faith***

### **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](mailto:gsmolin@earthlink.net)

## ***Giving in Faith***

### **Flowers on the altar**

The flowers on the altar are placed in memory of LaVonn Schmidt from her family.

### **Ministry Support**

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$12,596.72 for Current Expenses and \$1,419.21 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at [salemlutheran.org/donate](https://salemlutheran.org/donate).

## ***Salem Youth Group***

### **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.acollins005@gmail.com](mailto:r.acollins005@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!



@SALEMSTILLWATERYOUTHGROUP

### **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.acollins005@gmail.com](mailto:r.acollins005@gmail.com), 612-483-9197).

## *Sister Ministries*

### St. Croix Lutheran Academy (SCLA) Update

- Middle School Christmas Concert - Tuesday, Dec. 19, 6:30pm
- High School Christmas concert - Thursday, Dec. 21, 7:00pm
  
- Christmas homestays are needed for international students who will not be traveling home Friday, Dec. 22 through Saturday, January 6. \$700 stipend. email tamara julian [tjulian@stcroixlutheran.org](mailto:tjulian@stcroixlutheran.org).

### SCLA Job Openings (Apply at [stcroixlutheran.org/jobs](http://stcroixlutheran.org/jobs) or email Lori Kowitz at [lkowitz@stcroixlutheran.org](mailto:lkowitz@stcroixlutheran.org).)

- **Admissions and events coordinator - full-time, non-exempt**
  - Year-round, full-time admissions and events coordinator to support the admissions program and assist the principal, domestic admissions counselor, and mission advancement director.
  
- **Snow equipment operator - on-call, part-time**
  - Assist maintenance staff in removing snow and ice from the campus parking lot, sidewalks, and walkways.
  
- **Short-term activities planner - seasonal, part-time**
  - Primary responsibilities include scheduling and running activities to places like the science museum, mall of america, or skyzone for visiting chinese students (13) from jan 27-feb 16 and/or a visiting thailand group from apr 3-27.

## *In our prayers this week*

- For healing and recovery to all who suffer physically, emotionally, and mentally.
- For the children of our school, as they celebrate and share Jesus at the midweek services.
- For patience with God to trust his timing and his answers to all our prayers.