

Welcome Home Weekend - Next Week!

Worshiping our God—listening to him speak to us in his Word and responding with our praise—is always special. However, it can be especially joyful when the house is packed. Think of the singing on Christmas Eve, or the way we need to set up chairs on Easter Sunday. Yet, even on those days, we have members who are out of town.

The goal of *Welcome Home Weekend* is to have a day when everyone that is part of our Christian family comes together. After all, church is home, and believers are family.

Our focus of worship on this day is the blessing of Christian community. Thus, we want as close to 100% of our members here as possible. Thus, it is the perfect Sunday for someone who has been away from church for a while to come back. Do you know someone like that? Maybe it's a sister or a son or a friend. They used to come, but for whatever reason, they stopped. Reach out to them. Offer to pick them that day. If they are afraid, assure them. We are all sinners. We are all redeemed. And we are all family. On that day, everyone receives a warm "Welcome home!"

We hope to see you at one of our three services October 11th & 12th. Members at all services can add a leaf to our "Salem Tree" and we'll enjoy refreshments between services on Sunday.

Jesus Cares Ministry Launches Today

This weekend Salem and our sister churches are launching Jesus Cares, a new ministry designed for members and friends with disabilities. The first gathering takes place Sunday, October 5, at 12:30 pm. Please pray for our leaders, helpers, and those who hear the Gospel we share!



This Week at Salem

Sun, 10/5	8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Study & Sunday JAM 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Jesus Cares 4:00 pm Youth Group Kickball at Christ Lutheran
Mon, 10/6	6:00 pm Bible Basics
Tues, 10/7	10:15 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:30 pm Parish Nurse Office Hours 6:00 pm Outreach Board
Wed, 10/8	9:00 am Chapel 5:30 pm Catechism Class 5:45 pm Praise Ensemble 6:15 pm Choir Practice 7:15 pm Men's Chorus & Handbells
Sat, 10/11	8:30 am New Member Seminar 5:00 pm Worship with Communion
Sun, 10/12	8:00 am Worship with Communion 9:15 am Adult Bible Study & Sunday JAM 10:30 am Worship with Communion 11:45 am Youth Group



Table Talks: Parenting in a Digital World

Join us on Wednesday, October 23, from 6:00–7:30 pm for the first session of our new *Table Talks* series. Department of Homeland Cybersecurity Advisor Chris Gabbard will present on digital literacy, online safety, and AI, followed by Q&A and a roundtable with Pastor Jon Pedersen and other guests. This event is \$15/family but free for Salem families and anyone you invite with the promo code SalemSaints. Faculty-directed childcare and light refreshments are provided. Register today at: www.salemlutheran.org/tabletalk

Please share this opportunity with friends and neighbors. This is a great way to show how deeply Salem cares about walking alongside them in faith and parenting.



Fall Youth Group

This Sunday, Oct 5 from 4–6 pm, Christ Lutheran (North St. Paul campus) is hosting Kickball & Worship with kickball, pizza/snacks, a devotion, and campfire worship. On Sunday, Oct 12, stay after church from 11:45 am–1:15 pm for Bible Study and roast beef sandwiches. Then on Sunday, Oct 19 from 5–7 pm, join us in the Salem gym for Area Youth Night with games, a video devotion, and small group discussions. Watch for a planning meeting in October and upcoming fundraisers, including Bingo in November, to help with costs for the Youth Rally.

October Food Drive for Valley Outreach

During October, Salem is collecting donations for Valley Outreach. Top food shelf needs include **canned food, pasta, rice, quinoa, and couscous, kid-friendly snacks like applesauce pouches, whole grain crackers, and granola or fruit/nut bars, as well as shelf-stable cooking essentials such as sugar, brown sugar, gluten-free flours, spices, and oil. Hygiene and menstrual products are also in high demand, including soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and tampons.** All donations are welcome!

Trunk or Treat on October 26th

Salem will hold our annual Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 26th from 4-6pm. Salem's Trunk or Treat is just around the corner, and we need your help to make it a success! We're looking for volunteers to host a trunk, serve food, or help with games and activities. This is a wonderful way to connect with families, share joy with kids, and welcome our community. Sign-up sheets are available in the entry or online. Don't wait to reserve your spot! If decorating isn't your strength, no worries, decorating kits are available. contact the church office for details.



Ministry Support

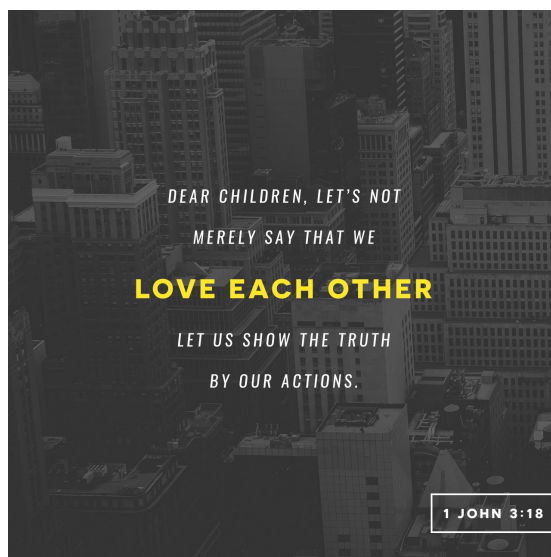
God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$19,053.96 for Current Expenses and \$1,204.15 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Let's show Pastor Wolfe and Pastor Pedersen how much we appreciate them both! There are many simple ways to express your thanks, such as:

- Placing a card in the appreciation box during October
- Sharing words of encouragement in person
- Giving a gift card or a small basket of their favorite treats
- Bringing in homemade goodies or bounty from your garden
- Sending a thoughtful letter
- Making a donation in their name

If you'd like to drop something off, please bring it to the church office and note which pastor it's for. Let's join together in giving thanks for the blessing of our pastors!



In Our Prayers

- ✝ For growth in faith and love, that God's name might be glorified in our lives as we live for others.
- ✝ For the youth of our church, that the Word of God might outspoke the voices of the world.
- ✝ For peace to Ken & Gail Kerr and their family at Ken's mother's passing into eternal rest.
- ✝ For the blessing of sister churches around the world, including the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church (ELFK) in Germany as their nation celebrated National Day on October 3rd.

Contact Information

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