

Christmas and New Years Worship

We have a great slate of services planned for this holiday season. Join us to glory in His righteousness and wonder at His love! Christmas Eve candlelight services will be at 3 and 5 pm. On Christmas morning, we'll gather again to celebrate as the shepherds and angels did - with great rejoicing! We'll start with Christmas caroling at 9:45 am before worship begins at 10 am. Holy Communion will be offered at the Christmas Day service. We close the year on December 31st with a special vespers service at 4:30pm. Holy Communion will be offered at the New Year's Eve service as well.

Christmas Eve Luminaries

This Christmas Eve Salem will remember the lives of those who have passed away with a path of luminary memorials. Please write the name of your loved one in heaven on a bag and a message if you wish as well. Bags will be available in the church entry this weekend and next. If you prefer, you can send your name and message to Zuber & Sara Shah at sshah@salemlutheran.org or text/call 651-491-4684 and they can prepare a luminary for you.

Bible Basics New Session

Pastor Pedersen will offer the next session of Bible Basics beginning on January 8th (Thursday) at 6:30. This 10 to 12-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. If you would like to attend or want to invite someone you know to attend please contact Pastor Pedersen (jpetersen@salemlutheran.org).

Christmas Break Schedule

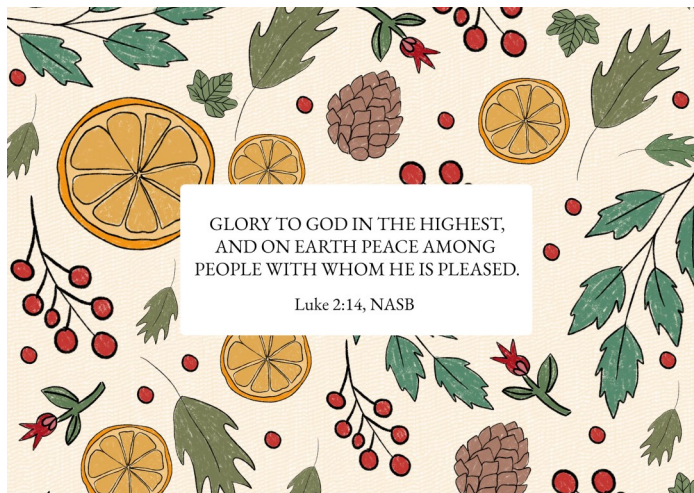
Salem School is closed for Christmas break until January 5th. During this break, our regular Bible studies, catechism classes, and music groups will not meet. The church office will not always be open at regularly scheduled hours. If you're coming to the office, you may want to call ahead to make sure someone is here. Contact us during the break at church@salemlutheran.org, call the office at 651-439-7831, or reach out to the person you're trying to contact directly.

This Week at Salem

- Sun, 12/21** 8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Bible Study and Sunday JAM
10:30 am Worship
- Mon, 12/22- 1/5 NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED
- Wed, 12/24 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight
- Thurs, 12/25 9:45 am Christmas Carol Sing-a-long
10:00 am Christmas Festival Service
with Communion
- Sat, 12/27 5:00 pm Worship
6:15 pm Volleyball
- Sun, 12/28 8:00 am Worship with Communion
9:15 am Bible Study
10:30 am Worship

Call News

We praise God that Pastor Jon Enter has returned his call to Wisconsin and will continue to teach at St. Croix Lutheran Academy. Please keep Salem teachers Luke and Allison Dorn in your prayers as they continue to deliberate calls to teach at St. Lucas Church and School in Kewaskum, WI. Please also pray for our preschool teacher Jill Kaiser. Her husband, Mark, has a call to serve as 5-6 grade teacher and athletic director to Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bremerton, WA.



Christmas Day Instrumental Carolers

Join us Christmas Day to play Christmas carols for the pre-service Christmas carol sing-a-long. If you have any questions, contact Roger Zoldan at 651-216-7462 (cell/text;) or at rzoldan@comcast.net.

Prayer Partner Letters are Ready!

Holiday letters are ready for you to pick up. You can pick up your envelope from the white mailbox located inside the church near the back door in the narthex.

2026 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelope boxes give our families an opportunity to consider our giving to the Lord for regular gifts and special occasions. If you don't find a box for yourself, please let us know in the church office.

Snow Shoveling Fundraiser

Salem 7th and 8th graders are raising funds for the upcoming history class trip to Washington, D.C. by offering driveway and walkway shoveling for \$20 (\$10 additional fee for snow deeper than 5 inches). Every job is completed with care, reliability, and attention to detail. Hiring the team means a cleanly shoveled property while supporting an educational trip to the nation's capital. To schedule or ask questions, email brooklynshopbell938@gmail.com.

Youth Ministry

Ross and Rachel Collins along with Pastor Pedersen are looking for more members interested in joining Salem's Youth Ministry. If you are interested in serving the youth by encouraging them in the faith and equipping them with life skills please contact either Pastor Pedersen or the Collins at jpetersen@salemlutheran.org or church@salemlutheran.org.

Ministry Support

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$15,111.03 for Current Expenses and \$725.00 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at salemlutheran.org/donate.

Contact Information

Church office (Abigail Ibsch): 651-439-7831 | church@salemlutheran.org
Pastor Ryan Wolfe: 701-989-9721 | rwolfe@salemlutheran.org
Pastor Jon Pedersen: 920-979-2476 | jpetersen@salemlutheran.org
Principal Ryan Klatt: 763-898-6273 | rklatt@salemlutheran.org
School Office: 651-439-7831 | school.office@salemlutheran.org
Parish Nurse (Kathy Smart): 651-383-5126 | nurse@salemlutheran.org

Salem Social Group New Years Dinner

Celebrate New Year's Eve with us on Tuesday, December 31! Start with the 4:30pm Vespers Service at Salem, followed by dinner at Golden Crown Chinese Restaurant (arrive between 5:30 – 5:45pm). The dinner is open to anyone college age or older—friends and adult family welcome! Sign up in the narthex by December 25. Questions? Contact George Smolinski at 651-334-6055 or gsmolin@earthlink.net. Ring in the New Year with fellowship and food!



In Our Prayers

- ✚ For confidence in the promises of God as we consider the miracle in the manger.
- ✚ For safe travel and unity between family and friends in the holiday season.
- ✚ For us to be sources of healing, companionship, compassion, and love to all who are hurting.

