

# SALEM NEWS & NOTES

January 31–February 1, 2026

## **Minnesota Ministry Workshop - Registration open!**

The Annual Minnesota Ministry Workshop will be held Saturday, March 14, 2025 at St. Croix Lutheran Academy in St. Paul. This event is open to all WELS members who are looking for personal inspiration or new ministry ideas. This year's conference brings leaders from across the country to speak on timely topics like enhancing worship in our churches, celebrating 175 years of WELS ministry, encouraging tomorrow's pastors and teachers, and keeping focus in our Lutheran schools. Registration is only \$35 per person, with an early-bird rate of \$30 before March 1st. Go to [www.mnworkshop.com](http://www.mnworkshop.com) for more details and to register.

## **ALL ARE INVITED! New Member Welcome**

In 2025, Salem was blessed to welcome more than 50 new members. On Sunday, February 8, we'll recognize them during the 10:30 a.m. service as we give thanks for our shared life of faith. Following the service, everyone is invited to a potluck meal. Join us as we enjoy fellowship and a meal together. Bring a favorite dish to share, and help us celebrate how God has brought us together in His grace. We hope you'll join us.

## **Get Involved with NOURISH- First Cooking Event Feb 22**

NOURISH invites our Salem family to care for one another through meals, fellowship, and service. Support the ministry by donating commercially packed, unopened ingredients, gift cards, or cash, sharing recipes (especially gluten-free, milk-free, sugar-free, or comfort foods), or volunteering to cook and package meals. Open to adult and youth group members. Sign-ups begin February 1. Questions or referrals may be directed to the church office, Melinda Wells, or Parish Nurse Kathy Smart.

**First Cooking Event:** Sunday, February 22 at 1:00 PM  
Meet in the Fellowship Hall. February's menu includes meatloaf, potatoes, and breads.

## **Special Thank You**

Toward the end of December, Salem leaders shared an update with members announcing a likely financial shortfall for the year and an opportunity to give a special gift to lower that deficit. Thank you to everyone who was moved to give a gift. We received over \$60,000 in special gifts to help us keep sharing the Gospel of Jesus. Praise the Lord for his grace, and that grace reflected among us.

## ***This Week at Salem***

<b>Sun, 2/1</b>	<b>8:00 am Worship</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Study & JAM <b>10:30 am Worship</b> 12:30 pm Jesus Cares
<b>Tue, 2/3</b>	6:00 pm Outreach Committee
<b>Wed, 2/4</b>	9:00 am Midweek Chapel 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm Oak Ridge Place Study 5:30 pm Catechism Class 6:15 pm Choir 7:15 pm Handbells & Men's Chorus
<b>Thurs, 2/5</b>	9:45 am Group Bible Study 10:45 am Parish Nurse Office Hours 6:00 pm Bible Basics
<b>Fri, 2/6</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL/OFFICE CLOSED</b>
<b>Sat, 2/7</b>	8:00 am Men's Bible Study at Gorman's 9:00 am All-committee planning meeting <b>5:00 pm Worship with Communion</b>
<b>Sun, 2/8</b>	<b>8:00 am Worship with Communion</b> 9:15 am Adult Bible Study & JAM <b>10:30 am Worship with Communion</b> 11:30 am New Member Potluck

## **SAVE THE DATE Built Stronger Together Retreat**

Join us for a Friday - Saturday marriage retreat at St. Croix National Golf & Event Center in Somerset, WI. Guest speaker Emily Krill, founder of Messy Worship and writer for Time of Grace, will guide couples in discovering their God-given strengths using the Clifton Strengths® (StrengthsFinder) assessment and learning how those strengths can strengthen marriage. April 17–18 \$100 per couple.

Registration opens on February 14. Space is limited.

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."*

Proverbs 27:17

*built stronger*  
**TOGETHER**



**Marriage Retreat**

### **Organ Repair**

We received word last week that repairs for the 100-year-old blower in our organ are going well. We hope to have it back soon. While the cost is less than the worst scenario, it will still be over \$6,000. If anyone would like to contribute to help pay for this unbudgeted expense, you can use one of your “designated offering” envelopes. Just put it in the offering plate and note on the envelope that your gift is for organ repair. Thank you.

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### **Camp Croix Winter Campout | Feb 20–22**

Embrace the beauty of the Northwoods this season. Whether you’re coming as a family or a youth group, join us to learn new skills and grow in your faith. All ages are welcome for this unique winter retreat. Sign up: [camp-croix.org/winter-campout](http://camp-croix.org/winter-campout)

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### **Now Hiring! Math and Reading Interventionist**

Stillwater Area Public Schools is seeking a licensed elementary educator to serve as Title 1 reading and math interventionist at Salem Lutheran School. This position serves the equitable non-public portion of Title I funds and will provide targeted reading and math interventions to students for up to three hours per week through the end of the school year. Applicants must hold a Minnesota Elementary Education license through PELSB. Compensation is \$32.57 per hour at the Supplemental Instruction/Prep Time rate. Anyone who holds a valid license is encouraged to apply through [Applitrack](https://www.applitrack.com).

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### **Enrollment is now open!**

Open enrollment is now open at Salem School. Schedule a tour and discover a caring, Christ-centered education for your child. Pray that the Lord connects us with families who need a great education!

### **Ministry Support**

God blessed Salem with offerings this past week of \$17,446.87 for Current Expenses and \$699.15 for Missions. We pray God leads us to generous giving. You can give digitally if you prefer at [salemlutheran.org/donate](http://salemlutheran.org/donate).

### **Contact Information**

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

### **February Diaper Drive**

The Caring Committee is coordinating our annual diaper drive in February to help young families at Christian Life Ministries in Little Canada. This is our WELS area pregnancy and family resource center. We will be collecting diapers sizes 5 and 6 and unscented baby wipes. They have sufficient amounts of smaller sizes. Look for the table in the Narthex to collect your donations!

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### **New Bible Study - Witnesses: Living the Faith from Acts**

Salem’s midweek Bible study begins a new study this week focused on the book of Acts. Join us as we see the habits and practices of the New Testament church, as we see God deliver them again and again from persecution, and as God shepherds a group of dozens into a church of thousands. Midweek class is open to everyone, no matter how familiar or unfamiliar you might be with our topic. Join us Thursdays at 9:45am in the fellowship hall.



### **In Our Prayers**

- ✝ For Minnesota, may the people near us be treated with compassion. May we show patience to others in the same way God has been patient with us.
- ✝ For those burdened by illness, that the Lord may grant them healing, peace, and rest in the glory that awaits them through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ✝ For our church leaders, that they be driven to unity through patience, wisdom, and understanding. Lead them to join together in the ministry at Salem underneath our King, focusing on the mission to make disciples and encourage one another in the peace of Christ.

