

**Salem Lutheran Church**

**Childcare and Preschool**



**May 2024**

Pastor’s Page

Members of Salem Lutheran Church – Greetings and God’s Blessings!

One of my favorite passages of Holy Scripture comes to us from Peter, a disciple of our Lord. I share this with you and pray that this may be an encouraging and the thoughtful reminder of who we are as God’s people.   Meditate upon these words.

“As you come to Him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ…….. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.  Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”  (1 Peter 2:4-5, & 9-10).

God has chosen you (you and me) to be His children and called to serve Him together as we proclaim the mercies of our gracious and loving God.  You are entering a pastoral vacancy, in which I suppose there will be a lot of questions and concerns.  How long will this be?  How are things going to work out?   Yes, there are concerns, but together, (you and me, as your vacancy pastor) will work through the process and serve our Lord together.  I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity to serve you as your pastor.  As we get to know one another, and as we build the relationship of pastor and people, we will strive together to serve our Lord.

Challenges?  Yes!   Opportunities?  Great!   Blessings!  Abounding!   For God will be with us!  “For God has called us to declare the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness”.  We are His chosen people, people belonging to God.   Praise the Lord!

When you have doubts.  When you have concerns.   When things don’t always go the way, we would like.   When you get impatient.  Remember these words of Peter, as he reminds you and me, we are the people of God, chosen by Him to be His servants to a world that needs to hear the Good News of the Gospel.  Remember that we are called to serve together to the glory of our gracious God and Savior.

We rejoice and celebrate in God’s gracious love, peace, and forgiveness.

God’s Blessings

Fred Buth (vacancy pastor)

**Council Meeting 04/09/24**

**Present:** Pastor Buth, President John Steele, Vice President Josh Millerman, Secretary Emily Steele, Treasurer MaryAnn Thompson, Trustee Tom Lipke, Elder Don Duncan, Board of Education Chris Severt, Guest Cindy Wright,

President John Steele called the meeting to order

Pastor Buth led the council in a prayer.

**Secretary Report:** The report from March was sent out electronically and two revisions were made. Ms. Steele provided an updated copy. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Chris Severt and seconded by Josh Millerman.

**Guest Cindy Wright:** Ms. Wright is concerned about access to the churches Facebook page. She often helps to start the live stream of services on Sunday mornings and is concerned that she would not have access to the churches pages under the Salem Lutheran Facebook account. The council and Facebook administrators that Ms. Wright was accessing the Facebook page through the Salem Lutheran account and that she had planned to continue assisting in the livestream. Now Ms. Wright can work with the administrators to ensure she has access to assist the church in livestreaming the service. The council discussed that it would be beneficial to have a password for the computer in the balcony so we be aware of people that have access to church records and camera monitoring. A password on the church’s computer would be helpful in this situation. In addition, access to the security cameras needs to be limited, as they also monitor the daycare and we should discuss whether church’s security clearance is required before access is granted.

**Treasurer Report:**

MaryAnn Thompson provided financial reports as of April 7th, 2024.

Salem Lutheran received a Thrivent Grant of $1,706. This money needs to be allocated and normally Thrivent members will decide. Ms. Thompson will contact the members so they can meet. Pastor Nielson was removed from the Thrivent benefits plan due to his call to a new congregation. Integrity accounting has arranged for Pastor Buth to receive a once/month payment at the end of each month. In order to save on transfer fees, integrity accounting recommended that direct deposits be taken from a single account and then money be transferred to the correct accounts afterwards. This may be confusing for the church members when balancing accounts. Ms. Thompson will discuss with the accounting firm. Church Mutual Insurance changes monthly based on the church employee’s salary. Ms. Thompson will work with them to make sure salaries are correctly recorded. The budget for the organist salaries is overbudget. This is due to the additional Lenten services. A motion was made to approve the report by Chris Severt and seconded by Tom Lipke.

**Elder Report:**

The elders discussed Pastor Buth’s salary with the church treasurer and agreed on a $1200/month payment as requested. The Neilson family was transferred to St. John’s in North Prairie, WI. Four new members, Madeline Thompson, Brianne Daniels, Helene Mickelson, and Connie Vroman gave a profession of faith and were welcomed to the church. Ms. Daniels was also baptized. The new members will receive Study Bibles, pictorial books and a constitution as part of the new member packet. Issac Mickelson was confirmed and communed.

The elders discussed waiting to start the Facebook livestream when the music starts to avoid personal conversations. Stan Koenig will check can check Facebook and start the livestream. Pastor Lueck is coming April 14th for a pre-call meeting. Pastor Buechner will be invited as well. The church constitution needs to be revisited.

St. Paul’s in Cumberland is having a meeting at 6PM April 16th 6PM to address the shortage of pastors. Lay members and women are welcome. The daycare director requested an elder for chapel time. Paul Millerman has volunteered. The Kaisers came for a Bible study on April 7th. The spring church meeting will be held on April 28th after service. Duane Longmeyer will finish the study on John for Tuesday men’s Bible Study. A motion to accept the elder report was made by Chris Severt and seconded by Josh Millerman.

**Trustee Report:**

The farewell cake for Pastor was well received and appreciated. The construction on the Altar Guild room is finished and well done. There will be an outdoor clean-up of the church on Tuesday May 7th at 5PM. If possible, volunteers should bring rakes. Men’s club will provide a meal after Mr. Lipke has surveyed the Parsonage. There are has plumbing issues and some screens will need to be replaced. The chimney is going to need repair and to be sealed off. In addition, the flooring and sink in the kitchen are becoming very worn. The carpets will need cleaning but likely not replacing. The basement is dry. The council should bring these repairs to the congregation at the April 28th meeting. A motion was made to accept the Trustee report by Don Duncan and seconded by Chris Severt.

**Board of Ed Report:**

The daycare director, Melissa Weinert, agreed to be the administrator for the camera system, Website, and Facebook now that Pastor Neilson will no longer be able to perform those duties. The camera system monitors the daycare area and it is important for safety to make sure the church is aware of those that have access to the cameras. People with access to the cameras should have completed a background check. The Board approved a form for the new Salem Preschool Alumni Scholarship. The scholarship will be $250 and available to former preschool students pursuing further education after high school. Construction has started to divide the downstairs preschool into two rooms. The state will measure the room and give capacity numbers once the work is done. The board approved a new changing table for the second room. The state has responded about the food program application. Program allocations are based on household income. Ms. Weinert will collect that information. There is one former client from the daycare will a balance. Ms. Weinert will follow collection protocol. President John Steele will be the Licensee for the Daycare/Preschool and Ms. Weinert will be the director and administrator now that Pastor Neilson accepted a new call. Sunday school is going well. The last day will be May 19th. There will be a teacher appreciation/graduate brunch on May 12th. April 24th will be the last day of confirmation with a pizza party. A motion was made to accept the report by Josh Millerman and seconded by MaryAnn Thompson.

**Pastor Report:** No new information. Welcome Pastor Buth!

**Old Business:** Pastor Buth is unable to cover services on May 5th. Pastor Mundanger will provide services on this Sunday.

**New Business:** Pastor Buth would like to meet with the daycare director.The Trust Fund needs a new lead member. We can hopefully find a volunteer on the April 28th meeting.

A motion was made to close the meeting by Chris Severt and seconded by MaryAnn Thompson.

The council Closed with Lord’s Prayer.



**Call Committee**

Stan Koenig – Chairman

Trevor Duncan

Ian Hinrichs

Duane Longmire

Jen Millerman

Sue Millerman

Emily Steele

MaryAnn Thompson

Cindy Wright

Please feel welcome and at home. We're glad you've decided to be a part of our family. New members are a gift from God, and an encouragement to us as we build His Kingdom. So please join us in giving a very warm “Welcome!” to:



* Brianna Daniel’s
* Helene Mickelson
* Madeline Thompson
* Connie Vroman



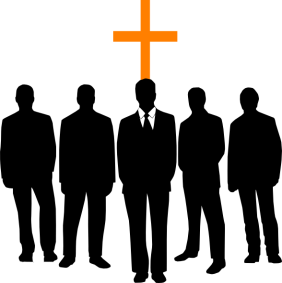
**On Monday April 15th St Paul’s church in Cumberland** hosted a meeting for all interested church lay leaders concerning the shortages of Pastors in our district. There are 2 churches with vacancies and 2 more Pastor’s who are retiring this summer. They wanted to hear concerns and ideas from the concerned churches. We talked about pros and cons of mergers with churches. If a church is a follower or a leader.

The meeting was well attended and represented from Hayward, Lampson, Spooner, Fredric, St. Croix, Rice Lake, and Barron and surrounding areas. They handed out a ten-question sheet to fill out to see if your church would by a good Candidate to merge. Self-rating:

1 – no, not at all

5 – yes, strongly

If you have questions or concerns talk to one of your lay leaders or elders. **The next meeting will be May 13th at St. Paul’s Cumberland at 6:00PM**

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**Men’s Club – April 1, 2024**

* Present: Tom Lipke, Duffy Anderson, Jim Thalacker and Don Duncan
* Tom called the meeting to order.
* Don gave the Secretary report from March 5th. Motion by Jim to approve, seconded by Duffy.
* Jim gave the treasurer’s report. Motion by Duffy to approve report, seconded by Tom.
* Don made a motion for officers to stay the same. President Tom, V President and Treasure Jim, Secretary Don, seconded by Jim.
* Yard clean up for parsonage and the church yards will be May 7th at 5:00 pm with a meal to follow.
* Men’s club will purchase 4 monthly issues of The Lutheran Witness for a year for anyone who couldn’t afford it.
* Men’s club will not meet in June, July and August. We will resume in September before the Pancake Supper.
* Motion by Jim to adjourn, seconded by Duffy
* Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Minutes by Don Duncan, Secretary

**May 1: Jim & Gwen Metcalf**

**May 6: Daniel & Lisa Dennis**

**May 9: Stan & Nancy Koenig**

**May 16: Tim & Paula Dennis**

**May 20: Terry & Marlene Kirkman**

**May 22: Mark & Jeanette Garrett**

**May 27: Trevor & Sarah Duncan**





**Baptism Birthday**

May 6: Alex Millerman

May 7: Brady Mickelson

**May 6:** Mark Garrett

**May 9:** Lucille Wood

**May 11:** David Steele

**May 13:** Vivian Kirkman

# May 14: Kristina Dennis, Albert Starck & Robert Hinrichs

# May 19: Holly Johnson

# May 23: Brayden Weinert

# May 24: Stacey Bisnotte & Owen Metz

# May 25: Richard Snyder

# May 30: Pastor Mueller



How to Contact Us

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Mary Ann Wheeler, Parish Musician – (715) 205-1158

Church Service Phone –1 (888) 505-1870

Church Email: [salembarron@gmail.com](mailto:salembarron@gmail.com)

**Salem’s Web Page Is:** <https://www.salembarron.com/>

Click on enter the following link and follow the prompts to support Salem.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-6137330>

**May Greeters**

7 – Steve Amdall

14 –

21 – Hanson Family

28 – Bud & Carol Bremer



**May/June Leaders**

Carol Shearer 715-822-4375

Lucille Wood 715-637-6606

Steve Amdall 715-637-7758

Duane & Kari Longmire 920-595-0899

Shawn Dennis 715-205-1807

Tim & Paula Dennis 715-837-1708

Mary Oscarson 612-790-5464

Holly Johnson 715-637-7758

Sue Weise 715-837-1555

Tom & Debbie Lipke 715-458-4712

Rusty & Melissa Weise 715-764-2084

**Scott Queiser 715-837-1371**

Melissa Miller 715-641-0263

Earl & Aimee Starck 715-637-3482

Debbie Church 715-296-2749

**May Ushers**

**Tim Dennis**

Dean Hanson

Ryan Hanson

Ryley Hanson

Hunter Nelson

Bud Bremer

**Coffee Schedule**

5 – Confirmation

12 –

19 – Potluck Last Day of SS

26 –



**May Elders**

5 – Tim Dennis

12 – Trevor Duncan

19 – Stan Koenig

26 – Don Duncan

**May 2024**

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |

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|  |  |  | 1  5:15 YFM meeting  6:00 Choir Practice  6:30 BOE Meeting | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 White  9:00 am Communion Worship  10:00 Coffee/Snacks  10:15 am SS/Bible Class | 6  7:00 pm Elders | 7  8 am Bible Class  5 pm Lawn Clean-up with Potluck following  7:00 pm Men’s Club  See the source image | 8  6:00 Choir Practice  7pm Call Committee Meeting | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 White  9:00 am Worship  **Kids Singing in Church**  10:00 Coffee/Snacks  10:15 am SS/Bible Class  10:30 Teacher Appreciation Brunch, Graduate Recognition  See the source image  See the source image | 13 | 14  8 am Bible Class  7:00 pm Council | 15  6:00 Choir Practice | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 White    9:00 am Communion Worship  **Choir Singing**  10:00 Coffee/Snacks  10:15 am SS/Bible Class  **Last Day of SS!** | 20 | 21  8 am Bible Class  4:30 pm YFM | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 White    9:00 am Worship  10:00 Coffee/Snacks  10:15 am SS/Bible Class | 27 | 28  8 am Bible Class | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |