

the Bugle



Photograph by Jennifer Wallstedt

Pastor Craig Swenson Called to Salem

As a result of the 146 to 2 vote in support of his Call, Pastor Craig on July 8, Salem Lutheran Church voted to call Pastor Craig Swenson as our next Senior Pastor. Pastor Craig comes to us from Wausau, Wisconsin where he had been serving as Senior Pastor. Pastor Craig has been at Saint Andrew for the last nine years. Pastor Craig was born and raised on a farm in western Iowa. He received a BS in Behavioral Science, 1991, from Midland Lutheran College, Fremont, NE and a Master of Divinity, 1995, from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA. Previous to his service at Saint Andrew, Pastor Craig served a two-point parish at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Minok, IL and Bethany Lutheran in Wenona, IL for 14 years.

Pastor Craig, and his wife Karen, have two married sons, one in Tennessee and one in Washington, IL, as well as three young grandchildren in Washington.

Pastor's strengths include preaching and teaching, pastoral care and visitation, evangelism and mission, and building a sense of community. Pastor Craig is an avid cyclist, enjoys landscaping and singing. We welcome Pastor Craig and Karen into the Salem family. Pastor Craig's first day at Salem will be August 13.



Grace, mercy and peace be to you, people of faith at Salem,

I write this brief greeting in response to the recent work of the church to extend a call to me to serve as your next Senior Pastor. I am first of all grateful and eager to accept this call and look forward to the opportunities to get better acquainted and learn your stories of faith and life through Salem Lutheran Church. Salem has a rich and long history of 135 years of faithful ministry in Peoria and I am confident this will serve us well as we anticipate many years that are yet to come.



Pastor Craig Swenson

I am further grateful for the pastors who have preceded me in this work and have helped form foundations upon which to build and grow ministry opportunities through Salem. Most recently, I give thanks for Pastor Dick Wehrs and Pastor Elise Rothfusz for their care and love of the gospel among you and now have each moved on to other viable and important roles in the extended life of the church community. I intend to spend the next weeks and months listening and learning with you about God's plan and purpose for our future hope together. I want to get to know you and I hope you might do so with me so that we can build lasting and fruitful relationships for the sake of bearing witness to the love of Jesus.

I look forward to learn of the many expressions of ministry that are currently taking place at Salem and all the more eager to anticipate what is yet to come. Share with me about the Dream Leaders Initiative, the workshop and how Pastor Jeff encouraged you to pray, imagine and dream abundantly. What are your hopes, dreams, fears, challenges that shape your life and your faith and the way by which you are connected or disconnected to the church, your family, community and the world that God has made? Tell me stories of how you have and now see God working through educational opportunities, fellowship and family events. I am excited about the active capital campaign focused on re-visioning and renewing God's house together for current and future ministry needs. It is a major undertaking that had been postponed but is now in full swing as the Kairos organization helps consider the possibilities and the support that will be needed to renew the life of Salem and further equip Salem for the sake of proclaiming and bearing witness to the gospel of Jesus as God's greatest of gifts for Salem and the needs identified in the Peoria area.

These are exciting times and it is with great expectation and hopeful anticipation that I enter life with you as pastor and engage you in this ongoing work of Christ's church through Salem. I pray the words Saint Paul shared in his letter to the Ephesians will continue to shape what we envision will be through Salem during this time of transition and hope for the future. "Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish far more than we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Together, we are blessed to be a blessing!
Pastor Craig Swenson



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due August 6.**

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In case of emergency a pastor is
available at: 309-679-7708



Fun Fair Carnival

Salem is hosting the third annual community-wide fundraiser and school supply drive for Common Place at the Shoppes at Grand Prairie on Saturday, August 11 from 11am-2pm. The event will include Fun on the Run, face painting, balloons, carnival games, caramel corn and other fun ways to collect school supplies and raise funds for Common Place.

Common Place is a local organization that provides literacy programs serving adults and children in Peoria's south side. Their goal is to eliminate the root causes of poverty, racism and injustice through education. Common Place helps thousands to achieve higher levels of reading and education each year.

Volunteers of all ages are needed to help with the carnival to benefit Common Place. This makes a great family service project! We invite you to sign up at the Welcome Center and check out a list of games/activities to help with for this great event. Your involvement is key to the success of this fundraiser supporting the programs at Common Place.

For more information contact Jill Goldhammer at jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com or Kelly Brinkman at kellyjasonbrinkman@att.net.



SALEM DISCIPLESHIP

Worship and Music Ministry Group Needs You!

The Worship and Music Ministry Group is seeking additional members. This ministry group is primarily responsible for planning and implementing Sunday and special worship services, the music program, Altar Guild, worship participants, and ushers. If you have interest in any of these or have special talents that would enhance worship at Salem, we need you! Please consider becoming a member and serving Salem on this ministry group. If interested, please contact Norma Hartman, acting chairperson, at 240-8387 or nkhartman248@gmail.com. Currently meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

Women's Summer Bible Study

Summer Bible Study continues during the day on Wednesday, August 8 starting at 9am, and in the evening on Tuesday, August 14 at 7pm. The gathering is held in the lounge and this year is led by Rebecca Sipf. Join us for great fellowship and sharing! Hope to see you there!

Music Ministry Rehearsals begin on Thursday, August 30

Rehearsals for both Sanctuary Bells and Choir will begin on Thursday, August 30, at 6pm (bells) and 7pm (choir). Choir will sing for Sunday services beginning September 9. During this exciting time for Salem's congregation, please consider joining Sanctuary Choir and adding your voice to the group. Any questions, please contact Marcia Richardson, director of music, at 202-3155 or Aaron Ganschow, choir director, at 267-7042.

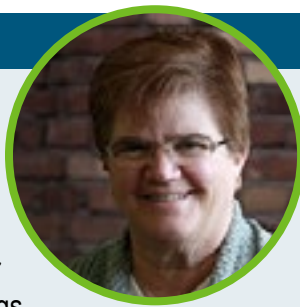
Fair Trade, August 12

Please stop by the Fair Trade table near the Welcome Center on Sunday, August 12 for your favorite chocolates, nuts and coffee.

Save the Date for God's Work. Our Hands.

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday is September 9 this year. More information will be available in the September Bugle.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER, RN



Backpacks for Back to School!

Backpacks come in all sizes and designs. They let children of all ages express their own style and when utilized properly, they're helpful. Compared with shoulder bags, messenger bags, or purses, backpacks are better because strong muscles. The back and the abdominal muscles support the weight of the packs. When worn correctly, the weight in a backpack is evenly distributed across the body, and shoulder and neck injuries are less common. As practical as backpacks are, they can strain muscles and joints and may cause back pain if they're too heavy or are used incorrectly. Here's how to help your children find and use the right backpack. Look for:

- **A lightweight pack:** get one that doesn't add a lot of weight to your child's load. Also, pack light. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of the student's total body weight.
- **The correct size:** never wider or longer than your child's torso and never hanging more than 4 inches below the waist.
- **Two wide, padded shoulder straps:** straps that are too narrow can dig into shoulders and slinging a backpack over one shoulder cannot distribute weight evenly and can strain muscles. Wearing a backpack on one shoulder may also increase curvature of the spine.
- **A padded back:** it not only provides increased comfort, but also protects kids from being poked by sharp objects inside the pack.
- **A waist belt:** this helps to distribute the weight more evenly across the body
- **Multiple compartments:** to help distribute the weight throughout the pack

You may need to adjust your child's backpack and/or reduce how much they carry if they:

- Struggle to get the backpack on or off
- Have back pain
- Lean forward to carry the backpack

If after adjusting, your child has back pain or numbness or weakness in the arms or legs, talk to your doctor.

2018 Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly

This year, the Synod Assembly was held in Champaign, Illinois on June 7-9. Over 260 voting members from across the synod attended the assembly this year. The theme of the assembly was "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20) In addition to conducting the "business of the Synod", the assembly included time for devotions, bible studies, special topic forums, worship, a hymn sing, and even an ice cream social.

Bishop John Roth mentioned he will be on sabbatical from October 7 through January 6. Synod staff changes were recognized, including Pastor Elise being called as Director of Evangelical Mission (DEM). Elections for Synod Council, Consultation Committee, and delegates for the 2019 Churchwide Assembly were held, and Pastor Paul Park was elected to the Consultation Committee. The Synod Assembly also included numerous reports from the Synod Council Treasurer, LSSI, Portico, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC), and various Auxiliaries such as Lutheran Youth Organization and Women of the ELCA. Next year's Synod Assembly will be held in Springfield.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave and Kris Griffith, Dave Rees
Salem Lutheran Delegates for 2018

ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. Salem was represented by 16 high school students and 7 adult leaders at the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

Our entire experience was just fabulous! I usually have two simple goals for our students when they participate in experiences like the Gathering:

1. That they grow in love for each other and for Christ, and
2. That what they hear, discover and experience challenges them to live their faith more fully throughout their lives.

The experience of traveling 15 hours together each way on our AWESOME church bus, rooming together for almost a week, sharing meals, exploring Houston, and having fun together pretty much guarantees students and adults will grow closer with each other. Worshipping with 30,000 new friends each night increases our love for Christ and our confidence in expressing it. And, the theme and speakers chosen for this year's Gathering absolutely made us think about faith intersecting daily life.

The Gathering Theme: "This Changes Everything" was divided into five daily themes: God's Call Changes Everything, God's Hope Changes Everything; God's Love Changes Everything; God's Grace Changes Everything and finally: Jesus Changes Everything! Each day our Bible stories, speaker presentations, service work, and interactions focused on these daily themes. For our service day, we painted a house and tore old wooden siding off of it. You all would've been so proud of the way our group pulled together to make a difference for that homeowner!

I am so very thankful for the adult leaders that went along on this trip. Their enthusiasm, energy and love for our kids was incredible. To the youth group parents...thank you for allowing your kids to go and experience something as huge as over 30,000 youth getting together to worship our loving God! To those of you who supported us in preparation for this trip, whether it be financially or with prayer, I thank you from the bottom of my heart!

-Love, Deacon Jill



CHILDREN,
YOUTH & FAMILY
MINISTRIES

Looking Ahead!

AUGUST 19:

Blessing of the Backpacks

SEPTEMBER 9:

Rally Day
Sunday School Resumes

SEPTEMBER 12

Primetime!
Breaking Bread
Faith for Life



Blessing of the Backpacks

On Sunday, August 19, children's backpacks will be blessed. As these students carry these backpacks, may they be reminded of the love and care of this congregation that surrounds them each school day. (Additional Backpack Blessing Tags will be available in the Narthex.)

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY
QUESTIONS?

Please contact
Jill Goldhammer at
jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com



Salem Lutheran Church
Growing People in Christ...to Love & Serve!

See website calendar for up-to-date changes and additions:
www.salemofpeoria.com, click "calendar"

AUGUST 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 VBS - Rolling River Rampage 6:30pm: Worship	2 VBS - Rolling River Rampage 5pm-7pm: VBS Cookout	3 VBS - Rolling River Rampage	4
5 VBS Sunday Home Communion 9am: Worship	6 September Monthly Bugle Content Due 7am: Six Flags in St. Louis for Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups 9am: TOPS Meeting	7 7pm: Council Meeting	8 8am: Men's Bible Study 9am: Women's Bible Study 6:30pm: Worship Appeal Teams' Orientation and Training Sessions	9 6:45am: Endowment Meeting 9:30am: Bible Study Appeal Teams' Orientation and Training Sessions	10 6pm: Brage Lodge	11 11am-2pm: Common Place Carnival at Grand Prairie
12 Houston ELCA Gathering Recap Sunday 9am: Worship 10am: Kappa Chi Thank You Brunch	13 9am: TOPS Meeting	14 10am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Women's Bible Study 7:30pm: Education Meeting	15 8am: Men's Bible Study 6:30pm: Worship	16 9:30am: Bible Study	17	18
19 Backpack Blessing Sunday 9am: Worship 6pm: Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group Activity	20 9am: TOPS Meeting 7pm: Salem Churchmen	21 10am: Staff Meeting 6pm: Congregational Care Meeting 7pm: Outreach Meeting 7pm: Property & Finance Meeting	22 8am: Men's Bible Study 6:30pm: Worship	23 9:30am: Bible Study	24	25
26 9am: Worship	27 9am: TOPS Meeting 7pm: Preschool Parent Meeting	28 10am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Worship and Music Meeting	29 First Day of Preschool 8am: Men's Bible Study 6:30pm: Worship	30 9:30am: Bible Study 5pm: Executive Committee 1:30pm: LHV Service 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	31	



Thomas Jefferson Primary School VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Salem's adopt-a-school partnership with Thomas Jefferson Primary School is beginning another year. Our congregation has been supporting Thomas Jefferson for about 20 years in various ways. In addition to the programs listed below we give a monetary gift each year, provide food baskets at Christmas.

Last year the Classroom Volunteer program was reorganized to combine tutoring and helping with skill development. Those who have worked in program last year will be contacted

to see about continuing, but we are seeking additional volunteers for the Classroom Volunteer program. At this time teachers have not yet signed up for this year, but they will probably do that the first week of school. Last year,

14 teachers requested a volunteer, and we had a volunteer in each of those classes.

In the past most volunteers have committed to a weekly schedule, but teachers understand that there will be times during the years when a volunteer cannot be at school.

Once a volunteer is paired with a teacher, the volunteer will be given the teacher's contact information. The volunteer will let the teacher know the amount of time that he/she can commit to each week. The two will then work out their own schedule for day/time.

If you are interested in being part of this program that benefits children and helps teachers at TJ, please sign up at the Welcome Center. All classroom volunteers are required to complete a new security clearance form even if you turned in one last year. For more information contact Judy Cagle at jacagle98@comcast.net or phone 635-8559.



Salem Lutheran Preschool



OPENINGS are available!

Salem Family,

For more than 40 years, our preschool has provided a loving, Christian-based atmosphere for young children to learn and grow. This program is a wonderful outreach opportunity for our church and aides in our ability to bring new young families to our congregation.

This year we still have several openings this fall in both our morning 3's and afternoon 4's classes. Here is how our Salem Family can help spread the word...

1. Do you know a family in the area with preschool-age children?

-You can give them a copy of our flyer included with this *Bugle* or ask Meghan Peterson if you need more.

2. Have you checked out our preschool Facebook page?

- It only takes a moment to "Like" and follow us on Facebook! It is the best way to stay connected with all the fun things we do throughout year.

3. Have your kids or grandkids attended the preschool program here?

-Take a moment to fill out a review on Facebook or Google. You can find a direct link to Google reviews on our preschool Facebook page.

Word of mouth has always been our best way of acquiring new students. It only takes a few minutes to help spread the word, and we greatly appreciate it. Thanks!

For more information on our preschool visit:

On the web:

<http://www.SalemPreschoolPeoria.com>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Salem-Lutheran-Preschool-Peoria-IL-274134942790010/>





Friends of Salem, thank you for the lovely farewell and send off on July 15. I deeply appreciate your gifts, cards, well wishes and prayers as I go forward.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Elise

Thank you to everyone who completed the MAP (Missional Assessment Profile) survey which helped us gain a deeper sense of how Salem engages in ministry and imagines our future. We also want to thank those who were able to attend the Map Summit where Tim Johnson, our Kairos consultant, walked us through the results of the MAP survey. Finally, we thank the participants and attendees at the Community Leader Gathering. How interesting to hear the purpose and needs of our community organizations as we consider the direction of Salem. This listening phase is an important part of Renewing God's House Together and your participation is greatly appreciated.



Thank you to Pastor Elise for conducting a beautiful funeral service for our mother, Marian Anderson. Also thank you to all who prepared, served or participated in the luncheon to honor our mother. You are a blessing.

The Family of Marian Anderson

We would like to thank our Salem family for all the prayers and support during our son-in-law Col. Darnell Salley's deployment in Afghanistan. He is safely on his way home.

Thanks,
Alice and Paul Bahnfleth

SALEM DISCIPLESHIP

Ice Cream Social and Bake Sale

The annual Lutheran Hillside Village Ice Cream Social and Bake Sale is scheduled for Sunday, August 19 from 11:30am to 2pm at the Lutheran Hillside Village, 6901 N. Galena Rd, Peoria. It will be held in the Community Center. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship. The event is sponsored by the Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria. The proceeds will benefit Lutheran Hillside Village. If you have any questions, please call Judy Huff at 697-6151.

Midwest Food Bank Opens a New Location in Texas

Midwest Food Bank, an Outreach Ministry partner of Salem, will open a new location in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area, MFB President and CEO David Kieser announced. The food bank is currently using donated warehouse space in Bedford, Texas, and a permanent facility will be purchased when the need and opportunity arise. Last year, Salem was a part of the 23,369 volunteers who helped Midwest Food Park distribute \$153 million of food to pantries and not-for-profit agencies.

Enjoy a Gourmet Brunch and Help Others!

Lutheran Hillside Village is hosting its 6th annual Benevolent Care Brunch Extraordinaire on Sat., Sept. 22 from 8:30am-1pm. Guests will be treated to your choice of delicious gourmet entrées prepared by our executive chef, Mark Shoopman, and his talented team. The cost is \$50 per person (\$25 is tax deductible.) Proceeds will benefit the Lutheran Hillside Village Benevolent Fund to support care center (nursing) residents who outlive their resources. Reservation forms will be available in August. Please call Lutheran Hillside Village Foundation; Phil King (309.683.1298) or Laurie Hahn (309.683.1263) for a form.

Please consider inviting your family and friends. This is the foundation's biggest fundraiser of the year. We need your help to make it a success! If you are interested in scheduling a tour of the village on the day of the event, please call Stephanie Marchand (309.692.4600) by Sept. 14. Thank you for your continued support of Lutheran Hillside Village.

"Thinking of You Sunday"

Every year, the Salem congregation sends bags of cards to homebound members on Valentine's Day and during the Christmas season. Since it is a long time until the holiday season, "Thinking of You Sunday" is a chance for the Salem family to recognize and send well wishes to the homebound members of the congregation during the fall. You may place notes in the "Thinking of You" bags that say you are thinking about them. The last Sunday to put notes in the bags will be Sunday, August 19. Then they will be delivered in the afternoon.

Our homebound members are: Walt Anderson, Natalee Arff, Betty and Matthew Bennett, Ruby Chelgren, Marge Gramm, Vi Gruber, Mary Gustafson, Bev Holmes, Shirley Hornecker, John Johnson, Bea Kent, Ruth Landes, Elaine McHugh, Pearl Nelson, Lillian Ries, Fran Riley, John and Marge Ryberg, Arlene Schroeder, Virginia Sommers, and Frank Yancick.

Volunteers are needed to deliver the "Thinking of You" bags. A sign-up sheet is located in the Welcome Center. Please contact Joan Creager at 231-7724 with any questions.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 3

Paul Bahnfleth
Cloyd Conard
Patty Lantz

August 6

Nancy Owen

August 8

Patricia Arehart
Rebecca Sipf

August 9

Nicholas Doty
Quinn Salverson

August 12

Jan Taylor

August 14

Justin Grabel

Beverly Holmes

August 15

Riley Neltner

August 16

Heather MacIver-Arnold
Jon Ripper

August 17

Jill Sidell

August 18

Brandon Lott
Nona Mitchelar
Nathan Reimer

August 19

Dylan Schroeder

August 21

Evelyn Aprahamian

August 25

Frances Riley
JQ Scoville

Leo Vandervlugt

August 27

Joy Anderson
Amy Schroeder

August 28

Dennis Krus
Ellen Mangan

August 30

Levi Salverson

August 31

Donald Graves

Prayer Requests

Please pray for

- The men and women of our armed forces
- Ulrich Family, missionaries to Malawi
- Families at Crittenton Center
- Midwest Food Bank
- Children of Guatemala
- Child suffering from Lyme disease and chronic encephalitis for three years
- Bob Baker and his family
- Barbara
- Jerry Bastian
- Jackie Bianchi
- Bob's family
- Bob and Sheryl
- Nicole Cherne
- Sara Crowe
- Stephanie Dammann's grandfather
- Friend of Cindy Fischer
- Chavela Gonzales
- Karen Gramith
- Emily Graff
- Jack Grant
- Ron Hipple
- Amy Hoffman
- Jean Huprich and family
- Helen Johnson (mother of Joan Creager)
- Nicole Inman
- Bill Mettam
- Dave Nixon
- Liz Osborne
- James Moffett
- Pat Sanders
- Greg Rhode

- Ed Roberts
- Sara
- Scott
- Sophie T.
- Tammy going through chemo
- Theresa
- Tyth going through chemo
- Baby Walter
- Family of Susie Wolfmeyer
- Jean and Frank Yancick

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

Stateside: Ian Borquist, Alex Gonzalez, Jason Sterr, Scott Wolfmeyer

Overseas:

Talon Maki,
Col. Darnell Salley



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



INVITE



Join the Fun on Sept. 8!

Save the Date! On Saturday, September 8, our annual Salem Church picnic will be from 11am-3pm at Sommer Park. Salem Church Men are sponsoring the event. There will be a short worship service at 11:30am followed by a catered lunch. If you would like to bring a dessert, please do so in a disposable dish. From 1pm to 3pm there will be lots of fun activities for children and adults including Barnyards Discoveries, face painting by the Zoo Lady, Fun on the Run attractions, bingo, water balloon throwing contests, etc. There is no cost to attend the picnic, but free will donations will be accepted. Additional picnic information can be found on the Salem Church Men's bulletin board.