

the Bugle



As I gaze out my office window, I see branches of a tree that is beginning to show signs of life returning at the end of lifeless branches. Spring is coming and signs of life are beginning to emerge from the cold, dark ground even as winter's grasp lingers longer than usual. For some, the winter has been harsh with record low temps and higher than normal precipitation. Now floods threaten many parts of the country as temperatures warm and snow melts at the same time heavy rains fall. Even so, change is coming and that is in part why I enjoy living in the mid-west. In most years, we experience three full months of distinctly different seasons. Certainly, there are some we appreciate more than others and sometimes the seasons include some extreme conditions, but they eventually give way to the next season which makes it all the more exciting and wonderful to anticipate the changes that are yet to come. In many ways this is reflective of the seasonal patterns of life, as written in the book of Ecclesiastes, *"there is a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to harvest what has been planted."*

This is an exciting time. It is soon planting season. It is time to anticipate new life springing forth. Spring is coming! The daylight hours are

lengthening. Migratory birds are returning, and signs of life will soon color the otherwise brown and drab landscape. **Can you imagine it? Do you believe it? New life is coming!**

Just as blossoms are swelling on the tree outside my office window, so is the excitement of what is yet to be as we anticipate Salem's renovation project. Thanks to many generous and forward-looking members, Salem is beginning to define design plans so that bids can be solicited and by summer's end, as we enter the time of harvest, we can possibly be sowing seeds, foundational seeds of concrete footings to anticipate a renewal project that will make way for future opportunities. Excitement is in the air. **Can you imagine it? Do you believe it?**

As the Lenten journey moves us ever closer to the celebration of Easter, we also anticipate the hope that emerges in our very lives. Jesus is at work among us to plant hope and love in our hearts, to bring us yet again from sin's grasp on our lives and to restore us to an abundant life through Easter's promise. *Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!* **Can you imagine it? Do you believe it?** Yes, you do. You are named and claimed by the one who makes all things new, including you. Blessed Easter.



Pastor Craig Swenson



THROUGH THE CROSS

Join us at Salem for a lenten journey that opens us to a deeper understanding of what Jesus has done and continues to do among us. Jesus is our hope and divine response to the world's greatest need. He meets us most clearly and most profoundly *through the cross*.

Lenten Midweek Services (continue through April 10)

- 11am service, and then followed with a luncheon.
- **New Time!** 5:30pm soup supper followed by 6:30pm service.

A free will offering will be received at the Lenten meals to go toward the food costs.

These are great times for fellowship, so we hope you will attend at least one of them as we take a lenten journey through the cross.



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In case of emergency please call:
Pastor Craig: 309-258-4759 or
Lori Reimer: 309-303-3808

Intern Ministry Opportunity

Being part of a larger church body means being in partnership with ministry opportunities that benefit individuals, congregations as well as other church-wide expressions. Salem has long recognized the need to extend its identity beyond the local congregational needs by participating in World Hunger, Disaster Relief as well as numerous community-related organizations. In past years, Salem has supported those discerning a call to ministry through seminary education as well. This has come in the form of monetary scholarships and also serving as a site for internship on at least two previous occasions.

An opportunity was recently presented to Salem to once again serve the church in that capacity. After thoughtful consideration, Salem's Council voted to accept the challenge laid out by Bishop Roth and Pastor Elise, Assistant to the Bishop, to create an internship experience for a student from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (WTS) beginning later this summer with Pastor Craig serving as internship supervisor. While there is a cost to such an experience, three sources have been identified to offset half of the year's expense: the student's congregation, Northern Conference, and seminary. The second half of the year will be addressed when Salem's 2020 budget is created at the end of this calendar year. The May Bugle will introduce Kristen Schmid Shurter more formally, define the start date in August and outline the year's expectation including plans to form a committee through Salem to partner with Pastor Craig and Kristen on this journey. Until then, your prayers and encouragement are welcomed.



Easter Flowers

Let's beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday! Have you ordered your spring flowers for Salem's Easter celebration? The flowers in this Garden of Remembrance and Faith can be given in memory and/or honor of loved ones and their names will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Flowers are \$12.75 each. Flower forms are located in the pews and should be returned to the church office by **April 12**.

Easter Flowers Delivery for Homebound Members

There is a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center if you are able to deliver Easter flowers to our homebound members. Delivery will be Easter afternoon.

Let Easter Breakfast Be Meaningful!

Easter Breakfast will be provided by the Salem Churchmen on **Easter Sunday, April 21** in between worship services from **8am-9:15am (Easter worship times are at 7am and 9:30am)**. You are invited to enjoy a breakfast of pancakes, eggs, breakfast meats, fresh fruit, coffee cakes, juice and milk. A free will offering will be received.



HE IS risen Easter

-HOLY WEEK-

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14
8AM & 10:45AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18
11AM & 6:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19
THE WAY OF THE CROSS
10:30AM

WORSHIP
6:30PM

Journey through Holy Week as it leads us to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Learn about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Alleluia, Christ is risen; he is risen indeed!

-EASTER SUNDAY-

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21
Choir and River Valley Brass will participate at both Easter services on Sunday, April 21.

7AM & 9:30AM

EASTER BREAKFAST
8:00AM-9:15AM

EASTER EGG HUNT
10:30AM

Easter Egg Hunt Donations

The congregation is encouraged to donate candy or small toys that fit in plastic eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt (**on April 21 following 9:30am service**.) There is a box for such items at the Welcome Center from now through **April 14**. Thank you for your help!





Crittenton Garden

Crittenton Centers' mission is to protect and nurture children and families. One of the ways the Center fulfills its mission is through its community garden. The garden provides fresh produce for the Crittenton families and the surrounding areas. Salem Lutheran Church helps support the garden



by preparing, planting and harvesting.

Salem works with the Crittenton staff, Bethel United Methodist Church and the Peoria Park District in using the garden to help Crittenton children, family and staffs experience the wonderful benefits of working in a garden and having fresh vegetables as a key part of our diet.

This summer the six raised gardens will be a partnership with Crittenton staff and classes. Those wishing to participate should sign up at the Visitor's Center and/or contact Roberta Kessinger, Inez Norgard, Dean Doughty or Bill Ligon.



Fair Trade on Sunday, April 7

Fair Trade items will be for sale on **Sunday, April 7**. There are some new products: Mama Tierra Coffee and a Panama dark chocolate bar, plus all of everyone's regular favorites! If anyone needs anything in the meantime, you are always welcome to contact Jennifer Gallas at pew117@aol.com or at 309-256-5862.

Pen Pal Letters and Annual Visit

Your last pen pal letter of the year will be available for pick up on **Sunday, April 7** in the Welcome Center. Please submit your return reply to the Thomas Jefferson mailbox no later than **Sunday, April 28**.

Salem's annual visit with Thomas Jefferson pen pals at Thomas Jefferson Primary School is **Friday, May 3 from 2pm-3pm**. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you wish to ride the bus. We will meet at church at 1:45pm. We will meet our pen pals in the classrooms for a short visit before going to the gym for an entertaining science program presented by Salem disciple Kim Ascherl.

Take On A Lenten Discipline: Give Food to Those in Need

Salem will be placing an emphasis on our food collection for Bethel United Methodist during the season of lent. Each week of lent will focus on specific items of non-perishable food to donate for Bethel and other area food pantries. Please see the dates below and join us in the fight against hunger in Peoria!

March 31 – Canned or packaged non-perishable meats

April 7 - Snack foods – crackers, granola bars, fruit cups, cookies, etc.

April 14 – Cereal, oatmeal, etc.

Give a book. Give a future!

About Look. It's My Book!

Studies show that a child's reading skills and school performance improve if there are books in the home. Research cited by the Literacy Council shows that 61% of children living in poverty do not have a single book for children in the home. Getting books in the home is a real need for many of our students in Peoria.

Look. It's My Book! was founded to support the work of the Adopt-a-School Program in Peoria for Peoria Public Schools. The non-profit organization provides a book to each child in kindergarten through fourth grade six times a year. By helping children have access to books at home, the program hopes to strengthen learning and instill a life-long love of reading.

For the past few years, students attending *Be Like Jesus* have helped pick out books for the **Look. It's My Book!** Program with the help of a Thrivent Grant. Several Salem members volunteer for Look. Its My Book to help label and distribute the books to Peoria Public Schools. Thank you to all the Salem members who participate in **Look. It's My Book!** If you are interested in volunteering with **Look. It's My Book!** please contact Janet Roth at janeteroth@yahoo.com.



ABOVE: Second and third grade children at *Be Like Jesus* select books for the **Look. It's My Book!** program.

Appreciation Bags for Thomas Jefferson Primary School

100 appreciation bags were delivered to teachers and staff at our adopt-a-school, Thomas Jefferson in March. The bags were filled with a variety of mint candies with a note that read:

Thank You for Your Encourage-mint

commit-mint

involve-mint

and invest-mint

in the children at Thomas Jefferson

Faith for Life students assembled the bags with a grant from Salem's Outreach Committee.



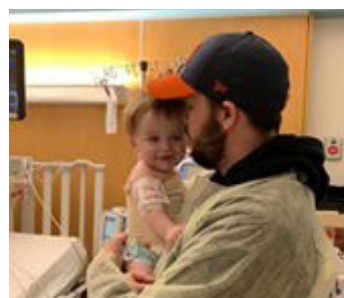
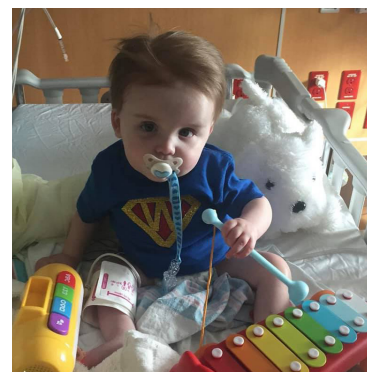
ABOVE: Faith for Life students assemble appreciation bags. Bottom left principal Maureen Meyer is thankful.



Wonderful Wally Benefit, April 24

Salem will host a Benefit for Wally Bastian at **Breaking Bread, Wednesday evening, April 24.** An award-winning pork barbeque dinner will be served **at 6pm.** Dave and Kelly Swanson and friends will be our guest cooks. A Thrivent Action Team will pay for the meal. All donations will go to the Bastian family to care for Wonderful Wally and his wonderful new heart!

Please plan to join us for dinner and/or make a donation during the week of our benefit dinner. Watch for more information.



SENIOR MINISTRIES

Peoria Symphony Matinee Concert

On **Tuesday, April 23,** Salem Seniors will leave Salem at 11am for the Civic Center for a Peoria Symphony Concert. It will be determined where lunch is at after the concert. Cost is \$5/person for the concert ticket.



Noisy Can Offering for ELCA Global Farm Challenge

Thanks to all of our loose change in the “Noisy Can Offering” and the weekly offering of our Sunday School children, Salem has collected over \$2,000 for the Global Farm Challenge. You are helping to “change” the lives of families and communities all over the world!

Our “change” could provide:

\$250 for a Fish Farm of tilapia with training and supplies. Give your neighbor a fish, and they’ll eat for a day. Give your neighbors a community fish farm, and they’ll eat for a lifetime.

\$1,000 for a pair of oxen and a plow is transformational and may double or even triple a farmer’s annual harvest. With tractors and machines few and far between, a rural farmer can only till so much of a field by hand.

And for \$750 for a Family Farm, talk about transformation! A cow, a couple of goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training and support, for example, can help a family achieve a fresh start. With new tools and techniques, crops will grow stronger than ever. Eggs, milk and meat from the farm animals provide a lifetime of food to eat and sell on the market, helping a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty – for good.

These are just some examples of what our donations could help provide. We will be receiving through May, so bring your loose change and help Salem “change” lives through education, training, and livestock.



FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER, RN

Spring cleaning is not just a “feel good” or “make the house look good after a long winter” task but important in helping improve yours and your family’s health. It is also a good time to be sure your house is not only clean but safe. Some of the following chores can help achieve this is a safer, healthier environment:

- Thoroughly dust, change filters, clean ducts and vents
- Have your chimney professionally cleaned after its winter use
- Check for hidden mold and mildew in bathrooms and other damp areas of your home
- Check under sinks and other areas, like the basement, for toxic cleaning supplies and be sure they are kept in safe, out-of-children’s reach areas; dispose of any out of date products
- Organize and safely store your medications and dispose of any medications, which includes over-the-counter, that are outdated; find out where in your community is a safe, appropriate drop off
- Check that your floor has no tattered rugs or loose boards and be sure any small rugs and mats have a non-skid backing
- Change batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Collect old batteries throughout your house and dispose of properly
- During your spring cleaning, don’t forget the garage and outside. Check the garage for toxic, outdated products, which may include paints, solvents, and other hazardous products; check for local hazardous waste drop off spots
- Check playground equipment, fencing, and other outside structures to insure they’re sturdy and safe
- This is also a good time to update any first aid or emergency kits you have, as well as review any disaster plans like tornado or fire escape with your family



Lori Reimer, RN

APRIL 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9am: TOPS Meeting 5pm: Design Team Meeting (Classrooms/CE) 7pm: Design Team Meeting (Nursery/Preschool)	2 9:15am: Rebecca Circle 10am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Council Meeting	3 8am: Men's Bible Study 9:30am: Quilters 11am: Lenten Worship 12pm: Lenten Lunch 5:30pm: Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm: Lenten Worship 7:15pm: Serendipity	4 9:30am: Bible Study 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	5 May Monthly Bugle Content Due	6
7 Fair Trade Sunday Pen Pal Letters 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour / Blood Pressures 10:45am: Worship	8 9am: TOPS Meeting	9 Northern Conference Meeting 6:30pm: Naomi Circle 7pm: Outreach Meeting 7:30pm: Education Meeting	10 8am: Men's Bible Study 9:30am: Quilters 11am: Lenten Worship 12pm: Lenten Lunch 5:30pm: Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm: Lenten Worship 7:15pm: Serendipity	11 9:30am: Bible Study 6pm: Sanctuary Bells 7pm: Sanctuary Choir	12 6pm: Brage Lodge	13 10am-2pm: Eggs on the Prairie 11am: Women of Salem: Heart & Soul Tea Party
14 Palm Sunday 8am: Worship - First Communion 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship - First Communion 12pm: Faith for Life Way of the Cross Practice	15 9am: TOPS Meeting 11:30am: Women of Salem Board Meeting 5pm: Design Team Meeting (Kitchen) 7pm: Design Team Meeting (Hospitality) 7pm: Salem Churchmen at Lariat Club	16 10am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Property & Finance Meeting	17 8am: Men's Bible Study 9:30am: Quilters	18 Maundy Thursday 9:30am: Bible Study 11am: Worship 6:30pm: Worship	19 Good Friday 10:30am: Way of the Cross 6:30pm: Worship 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir	20
21 Easter Sunday Noisy Can Collection 7am: Worship 8am: Easter Breakfast 9:30am: Worship 10:30am: Easter Egg Hunt	22 Church Office is Closed for Easter	23 10am: Staff Meeting 11am: Seniors to Peoria Symphony 6:30pm: Lydia Circle 7pm: Worship & Music Meeting	24 8am: Men's Bible Study 9:30am: Quilters 5:30pm: Primetime! 6pm: Breaking Bread - Wally Bastian Benefit Dinner 6:30pm: Faith for Life 7pm: Serendipity	25 9:30am: Bible Study 1:30pm: LHV Service	26 LOMC Retreat (bus leaves at 4:30pm) for 6th-9th graders	27 7:30am: Work Day Breakfast 8am: Work Day
28 LOMC Retreat (returns by 3pm) Return Pen Pal Letters 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship	29 9am: TOPS Meeting 5pm: Design Team Meeting	30 10am: Staff Meeting				

The Salem Family will host **Eggs on the Prairie on Saturday, April 13, from 10am-2pm**, at the Shoppes at Grand Prairie. Eggs on Prairie is an annual tradition at the Shoppes and will serve as an excellent opportunity for the community to get to know Salem and Salem to get out into the community. We will help with the line for families to visit the Easter Bunny, help with a children's Easter craft, supervise some games, hand out prizes, and host a table with take home information about Salem ministries and upcoming events.

The majority of this event is held indoors. Salem volunteers are needed. You may sign up at the Welcome Center to volunteer the full-time or in shifts (10am-noon; Noon-2pm). Thanks in advance for helping Salem become better known in our community!



Join us for Salem's annual WAY OF THE CROSS

Activities for children & families
Good Friday, April 19, 2019
10:30am – 12:30pm

Children and families will follow along as our confirmation students trace the footsteps of Jesus, beginning with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Salem members are encouraged to invite your friends, family and neighbors to this annual tradition that has meant so much to our Salem Family over the years.

10:30am: Children's Craft (first floor Social Hall)

11:00am: Program presented by Salem Faith for Life Students

Noon: Light lunch (Hot dogs, chips, mac-n-cheese, dessert)

There is no cost to participate in the Way of the Cross activities – ALL ARE WELCOME! Extra hands are needed for the children's craft and lunch at the Way of the Cross. Please contact Jill Goldhammer if you can help

Faith for Life students will meet on Sunday, April 14 from noon to 2pm to rehearse and prepare for the Way of the Cross. Lunch will be provided.



First Communion

The following third graders participated in First Communion classes with Pastor Craig during Sunday School on March 10 & 17: Allen Bidne, Andrew Ferrell, Evan Lott, Makayla Schroeder, and Keniya Scoville.

They will celebrate their First Communion on **Palm Sunday, April 14**. The congregation is invited to join them in between services for a reception in honor of this milestone. Notes of encouragement for the students are always welcome!



Faith for Life Students to LOMC

Salem 6th – 9th graders will be participating in a weekend retreat at LOMC **Friday, April 26-Sunday, April 28**. The theme is "It Only Takes a Spark."

Midweek CYF Programs Begin Again on April 24

Breaking Bread, Primetime, and Faith for Life do not meet during the Lenten season. These programs will begin again immediately after Easter, and meet on **Wednesdays, April 24 (Wonderful Wally Benefit), May 1, and May 8**. Primetime (Pre-K – 5th graders) and Primetime Moms meet at 5:30pm. Breaking Bread dinner (all ages!) is at 6pm and Faith for Life (6th, 7th and 8th graders) meet from 6:30pm-8pm.



Be Like Jesus Recap

Be Like Jesus is a 24-hour servant lock-in for 3rd – 6th graders. It is a collaborative effort of several ELCA congregations in the Peoria area. Children sing and dance and enjoy praise time with musician Shawn Smith during the event. They also make friends in small groups, bowl at the Christian Center, learn about serving others and complete hands-on service projects during the day on Saturday. Salem hosted Be Like Jesus on February 22-23, 2019.

Total Registrations: **62** - 3rd - 6th graders; **16** - Junior High students; **37** - High school & post-high leaders

Small Group Service Projects completed at Be Like Jesus, 2019

- 300 Lutheran World Relief Kits assembled
- Quilt squares made for 3 full quilts for Lutheran World Relief
- 205 Snack packs packed for Von Steuben Middle School, additional food donations to East Bluff Community Center
- 233 Easter Baskets made for the LSSI Intact Family Program
- 47 Surgical Caps made for children at the Children's Hospital
- \$400 in pet supplies purchased and delivered to Peoria Area Animal Shelter
- 15 tie blankets made for pets at PAWS
- Learning groups about living in poverty and Guatemala missions
- 64 jump ropes made from old t-shirts for overseas missions
- \$400 in Children's Books purchased for Look It's My Book!
- 50 Personal Care Kits packed for women in prison

There was a great group of parent and other adult help from Salem this year. It was awesome to do this activity as a team. Thanks Salem family for jumping in!



Vacation Bible School "To Mars and Beyond"

Salem's 2019 Vacation Bible School is **Monday, July 29 - Friday, August 2 from 9AM - noon everyday**

Many helping hands are needed to provide an awesome VBS week. We average over 100 students each year and that number is growing! Student and adult volunteers can register on-line or in the church office at any time. Participant registration will be available on-line and in the office starting

April 7. Participants who register before the end of the school year will receive a complimentary (one per family) music CD.



Mark Your Calendars:

- Affirmation of Baptism will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 12**.
- Graduation Recognition will be **Sunday, May 19**.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1

Michelle Hassel
Martin O'Conner

April 2

Craig McGregor

April 3

Susan Ross
Caleb Bradle

April 4

Judy Cagle
Kevin Hodgkins

April 5

Michael Bohm
Shirley Gustafson
Brianna Schroeder
Sheryl Snider
Kayla Webster

April 6

Sandra Salverson

April 7

Lynn Akers

April 9

Gretchen Petrakis

April 11

Julia Kotewa

April 12

Joyce Crone
Julie Hancock
Poppy Jolliff
Sean Patterson

April 13

John Gregg

April 15

Julie Millman
Leslie Scott

April 16

Sienna Hopkins
Sydney Hopkins

April 18

Carl Buerger, Jr.
Alysa Mathisen
April Pierce

April 19

Caroline Ricketts

April 20

David Sydow

April 22

William Petrakis

April 23

Alyssa Moore

April 25

Jacie Howard

April 26

Elyse Hickey
Anna Vandervlugt

April 27

Makayla Schroeder

April 30

Dennis Mitchelar

"Heart & Soul" Tea Party

All Women, Mothers, Daughters and Granddaughters Welcome

TEA PARTY ON APRIL 13, at 11am

Fun hats and spring accessories are encouraged. Sign up to attend sheets are in the Welcome Center for attendees, table hostesses and men are needed to help serve.

There will be a short program, a few games to play and door prizes. For any questions please contact: Lynn Akers at 683-0849 or lynnakers2@gmail.com.



Just Desserts

A spring bake sale is planned at Lutheran Hillside Village for **Friday, April 26 from 8am-11am**. We would greatly appreciate goodies of all kinds to be delivered to LHV's front desk prior to noon on Thurs, April 25. Please mark them Just Desserts in containers that you do not need to be returned. The residents and staff will be grateful for the homemade treats that you provide. All proceeds benefit LHV's Benevolent Fund.

LWGP Easter Parade Style Show and Tea

The Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria present the fourth "Easter Parade" Style Show and Tea at **2pm on Saturday, April 6** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1427 W. Lake Ave. in Peoria. Models will show off some of the delightful spring styles available at The Church Mouse while everyone enjoys coffee, flavored teas, and "English Tea Room" type desserts. Pastor Michael Jones from St. John in Bartonville will be our Master of Ceremonies, and will entertain us with some songs, and Don Bauer from St. John will provide background piano music and accompany the singers and models. Door prizes, raffles, items from the Church Mouse for sale and more will round out the afternoon.

Tickets will once again be \$10, \$5 for children under 12. Call 309-697-5762 or 309-697-5098 or your LWGP delegate for reservations. You can pay in advance or at the door. Groups can reserve tables together on a first come first serve basis. Proceeds go to Lutheran Social services of Illinois Children's Programs. If you'd like to model call 309-697-5762.

Library Corner

Because we are now in the season of Lent, the focus of the Salem library is all about that season. You will find readings for your devotional time, as well as more general books for the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter. They remind us of what God has done for us through Christ Jesus. There are even some devotions written by your fellow Salem members in the past. Do feel free to browse the shelves and choose something that calls you. There are also some books in the weekday narthex on the tall tables. Sign the card in the back of the book, and place it in the box on top of the card catalog. Then enjoy your Lenten reading!

A View of Salem's Financial Status

Month of February, 2019

General Fund	Budget	Actual	Difference
February Giving	\$49,558	\$55,393	\$5,835
Expenses	\$50,370	\$48,618	\$1,752
Net Income (Loss)	(\$359)	\$25,208	

Year-to-Date, 2019

General Fund	Budget	Actual	Difference
Giving	\$110,817	\$107,932	(2,885)
Expenses	\$100,740	\$96,801	\$3,939
Net Income (Loss)	\$10,077	\$11,131	



Spring Work Day, April 27

Thank you for helping to keep our church in great shape! **Fuel up with breakfast at 7:30am, work starts at 8am and finishes at noon.** Men, women, Kappa Chi and other family members are welcome to volunteer. Sign-

up is available online (www.salemofpeoria.com/salem-work-day) or preference cards will be available in your bulletin on March 31. Thank you for your advance sign-up so leaders may organize our tasks for the morning.

Salem's Endowment Committee – Updates for 2019

Greetings from Salem's Endowment Committee! We are happy to report that Bob Middleton and Susan Colloton have joined our committee this year. Bob has served this committee for a long time as a past member and then as a non-voting contributor, providing investment advice. He agreed to come back as a voting member this year. Susan is a new member, and Bill Fischer has stepped away from his voting role but has agreed to stay on as the secretary for the Committee. Pastor Craig Swenson has also joined the group. We are very thankful to have all of these valued members on our team.

The Endowment Committee wishes to say thank you to Gretchen Petrakis, who has served as a committee member for three years and is taking a position on Salem's Council. Thank you to Gretchen and best wishes in her new role!

On behalf of the Salem Congregation, the Endowment Committee made contributions totaling \$19,000 to the following organizations and individuals for 2018:

Common Place, Crittenton Centers, Midwest Food Bank, Southside Mission, Center for Prevention of Abuse, Pediatric Resource Center, Salvation Army, ELCA Disaster Relief Fund, Lutheran Social Services, Albers Seminary Scholarship, Bachman Scholarship Fund, Luther Seminary, Quest Charter Academy, Global Teams - Ulrich Family, Global Mission Seminary - Ella Vandervlugt, YMCA, Dream Center, Wartburg Theological Seminary.

2018 is the nineteenth year in which distributions were made, and gifts to these organizations come from the 2017 investment returns. Thanks to generous gifts from Salem members, the Endowment Fund has donated over \$170,000 in the past 20 years to community organizations, religious affiliated organizations, and individuals. If you have questions or wish to know more about the Endowment Committee, please contact any of the current members:

Pastor Craig Swenson, Dick Serrahn, John Iverson, Dennis Gustafson, Susan Colloton, Bob Middleton, Jennifer Gallas, Dean Doughty, Bill Fischer, John Gabel.

Please remember that you can contribute gifts to Salem's Endowment at any time. There is a large tree in the upstairs Lounge with leaves representing gifts in honor of Salem family members or friends, and in memory of persons who have passed away. If you would like information on making a gift in honor of or in memory of someone on the Endowment Tree in the Lounge, please contact Earl Gallas at 691-5738 or Jennifer Gallas at 692-5762.

The Committee thanks Salem for its continued support. Please check out our bulletin board for more information.

Prayer Requests

- The men and women of our armed forces
- Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer
- Ulrich Family
- Children of Guatemala
- Families at Crittenton Center
- Midwest Food Bank
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Mike Bohm
- Luan Borquist
- Stephanie Dammann's grandfather
- David

- Keith Erickson
- Evie (kidney dialysis)
- Roz Gott
- Marge Gramm
- Jack Grant
- Ron Hipple
- Amy Hoffman
- Helen Johnson
- Larry and his family
- Lizzy
- Marnie and family
- Bill Mettam
- Dr. Rick O'Connor
- Liz Osborne
- Helene Peterson

- Marti Plunkett
- The Purcell/Manning Family
- Pat and Deb Sanders
- Darla Tieszen
- Ella Vandervlugt
- Wayne (brother of Barbi Ricketts)
- Jean and Frank Yancick

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...
Stateside: Ian Borquist, Jason Sterr, Col. Darnell Salley, Scott Wolfmeyer

Overseas:
Talon Maki

Facility Design Team Update

The Facilities Design Team and Miller Architects & Builders are working in small groups to collect and share design input for Salem's Renewing God's House project. If you have interest in sharing in these conversations and plans, please contact the church office so you can be put in contact with one of the lead members for more information.

Subcommittee Meeting Dates in April are as follows:

April 1, 5pm: Classrooms/Christian Ed (Regg Glawe)

April 1, 7pm: Nursery/Preschool (Pam Machacek/Stephanie Dammann)

April 15, 5pm: Kitchen Updates (Helene Peterson)

April 15, 7pm: Hospitality (Helene Peterson)

April 29, 5pm: Buildings and Grounds (Rick Lambie/Jerry Snyder/Scott Faulkner)



THANK YOU!

Thanks to Lori Reimer for delivering the Valentine bag full of delicious treats, beautiful cards and gifts. The Sunday school kids did a great job of decorating the bag and making special cards. We displayed the cards on the door of Walt's "man cave" as a reminder of the love sent our way. Also, thanks to Pastor Swenson for his visit and great conversation.

Love and blessings,
Walt & Joy Anderson

A BIG Thank You!

A BIG thank you to all who participated in the Salem Lutheran Saints 2019 La Nuit Rose party in February. This event raised over \$1,900 toward our \$5,000 goal. Special thanks to those who donated items for the Silent Auction: Kim Ascherl, Mike/Susie Bohm, Annette Doughty, Bonnie Gallas, Greg/Leah Grebner, Dave/Kris Griffith, Merrell Hickey, Mike/Brenda Newcomb, Dick/Helene Peterson, and Craig/Gayle Young. A special thank you also to those who could not attend but made a monetary donation. Now is the time to join the Salem Lutheran Saints More Than Pink Team and join the walk on Saturday, **May 11, 2019** and start fundraising to help us reach our goal. Last year our Salem team had 77 team members and raised \$6201! We were the 3rd highest fundraising team.



Thank you for the goodie bag, but especially for your commitment, encouragement, involvement and investment in the lives of the students and staff of Thomas Jefferson School.

God Bless,
Maureen Meyer,
Principal of Thomas Jefferson

Our sincere thanks for the delightful Valentine box of cards, notes and wonderful goodies.

Thank you,
Carl and Helen Buerger



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

HE IS *risen*

Easter

CELEBRATE AT
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

-HOLY WEEK-

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8AM & 10:45AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18

11AM & 6:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

10:30AM

WORSHIP

6:30PM

-EASTER SUNDAY-

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Choir and River Valley Brass will participate at both Easter services on Sunday, April 21.

7AM & 9:30AM

EASTER BREAKFAST

8:00AM-9:15AM

EASTER EGG HUNT

10:30AM