

the Bugle

The hands of time pull us forward as already we face February and the season of Lent is soon to come. How often I wished to be able to press the pause button and linger longer in the moment without the consistent pressure to make another decision or anticipate the next task or event. But life is not like that. It moves us forward in one way or another. It would be nice to slow down the pace so that we might savor life's moments rather than chase after the next upcoming commitment. There are also moments of life when time does not pass fast enough. We long for the warmth of summer at the same time we cycle through weather patterns that swing us deeper into winter's cold and the persistent north winds. We long for healing, for relief to come, for a change in relationship or a transition to take place. We anticipate work on the renovation project, and hope we can make up some delayed work. Time is a strange thing. It is not tangible and not controllable. It measures passage and marks our lives with moments.

When I was a child I wanted to grow up and drive a car. Now I wish I did not have to be out in the fast-paced traffic of today's busy roadways. I wanted to be able to shave whiskers and now I grow tired of the daily task of standing in front of a mirror with razor in hand. (I once attempted growing a beard but soon realized that was not for me and shaving wasn't so bad after all.)

What I have learned about time over the years is to make every attempt to appreciate the moments and not hurry them along and to accept that things change whether I want them to or not. I am excited for the project underway and look forward to getting beyond the construction phases while at the same time, realize that each day, I have an opportunity to make a difference for those who demolish and rebuild walls and roofs, pour concrete, lay block and brick, hang drywall and give oversight to this project over these many months. We are not simply renewing a building, we are renewing and shaping lives. It is a blessing.

As this year unfolds, I encourage us to savor the moments and the relationships we share along life's journey. I pray that each of us looks for opportunities to make a difference in the world around us and to appreciate the time we are given. We have much for which to give thanks and taking time to assess the blessings will only enhance the time we have been given and the lives that we experience. We are partners in Christ. May we continue to grow and serve in ways that God glorifies and Christ Jesus is served.



Pastor Craig Swenson



Kristen Schmid

Winter greetings!

My California-raised self is grateful for our unseasonably warm weather and my easy commute. In December I was able to experience multiple ways of ministering in the Advent and Christmas seasons, both as a participant and observer and as a pastoral presence and leader. The Wednesday services (Holden evening prayer, Service of Solace) were new to me, and I think they provided beautiful and unique worship experiences.

I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Peoria Symphony Guild and Women of Salem luncheons. Getting to say the prayer at the guild event was a neat opportunity for interfaith community outreach.

I enjoyed accompanying Pastor Craig on Christmas home visits and making some on my own, as well as participating in Christmas Eve and Christmas worship services for the first time.

My sister-in-law in Bloomington teaches voice lessons; she is helping me build my skills for worship leadership and singing. I am excited about growing in confidence and ability in this area. My kids are less excited about the practicing ... :)

God's peace,
Kristen

SECRETARY FOR WORSHIP & MUSIC

The Worship & Music Ministry is searching for a person to record ministry minutes. This ministry meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Please contact Norma Hartman if you are interested or have questions.

PEN PAL LETTER RETURN

Please remember to return your Thomas Jefferson Pen Pal response by **Sunday, February 16** to the weekday narthex.

JOB OPENINGS

Salem Lutheran Church currently has three job openings for your consideration:

Director of Music Ministry, Choir Director and Organist/ Accompanist

To apply for either of these jobs or to share the job descriptions, please contact the church office at (309) 688-9212 or office@salemofpeoria.com.



Office Email:

office@salemofpeoria.com

**Craig Swenson,
Senior Pastor**

cswenson@salemofpeoria.com

**Jill Goldhammer, Deacon,
Children, Youth & Family Ministries**

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Deadline for copy is the 6th of each month at 12:00pm in the church office.

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Pastoral Emergency Number:

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

HUNGER

A MATTER OF THE HEART

Our call to feed the hungry, and God's concern for people in need, echo throughout Scripture. Jesus says "you give them something to eat" in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Making sure others are fed is a cornerstone of loving our neighbor.

This Lenten season, Salem will explore the roots of hunger by studying Scripture, learning about local programs, and examining hunger causes and solutions.

There are many ways you can participate:

- Reading and praying through an upcoming devotional
- Attending Lenten Wednesday evening worship at 6:30pm and programs
- Helping to plan activities or write a devotion

Questions? Contact Pastoral Intern Kristen Schmid by calling the church office or emailing kschmid@salemofpeoria.com. May God use this Lenten season to grow our hearts in understanding and love.

Lenten WORSHIP SERVICES

-ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26-

Services with communion will be at 11am and 6:30pm

-LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES-

(March 4-April 1) AT 11AM / 6:30PM

From the Parish Nurse...

Handwashing is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family from getting sick.



You can help yourself and your loved ones stay healthy by washing your hands often, especially during, but not limited to, some of these key times when you are likely to get and spread germs: before, during, and after preparing food; before eating food; before and after caring for someone at home who is sick; after using the toilet or changing diapers; after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; after touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste; after touching garbage.

Follow these five steps every time you wash your hands:

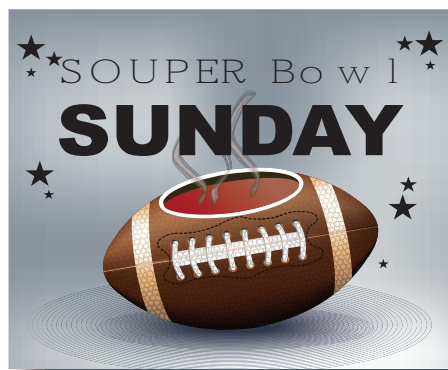
- Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them. If possible, use a towel or your elbow to turn off the faucet

You can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of germs on hands in many situations. However, Sanitizers do not get rid of all types of germs.

Information provided by the CDC: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention



Lori Reimer, RN



All cans of soup collected between now and **Super Bowl Sunday, February 2** will be matched with a Thrivent Action Card. Just bring your cans of soup to the collection center at church in the weekday narthex. The number of cans collected will be matched and delivered to our mission partners at Bethel United Methodist Church for their food pantry.



Plan to attend the February adult fellowship event!

Sat. February 8, 3pm:
Fired-Up in Peoria Heights

Imagine It. Paint It. Treasure It. Enjoy the afternoon painting pottery the Fired-Up studios. The studio fee is \$8/adult, and pottery pieces range \$8-over \$40. Fired-Up has a variety of pieces to pick from including mugs, bowls, plates, serving pieces, banks, boxes, animal figurines and seasonal items.

NEW!!!

Ladies NIGHT OUT

Join us for fabulous, fun night out with the women of Salem! Enjoy delicious drinks, yummy bites and conversation - while we plan when to meet-up next!

Tuesday, February 11
at 6pm
Donnelly's in Peoria

Ladies of all ages welcome. No children, please.

MORE THAN PINK EVENT

AN EVENING IN NEW ORLEANS

Come and enjoy the fun with your Salem family for an exciting fundraising night to kick-off the Salem "More than Pink" Team on **Saturday, February 22 at 6pm-9pm!** This was be an evening in New Orleans. The evening menu will feature New Orleans *Creole* and *Cajun* favorites! Sign-up today to attend this evening of food, wine and fellowship hosted by Helene Peterson and Gayle Young at 1006 Hickory Creek Court (Metamora.)

The night will have a silent auction with a wide variety of items donated by Salem members and friends. If you are interested in donating a silent auction item please contact Gayle Young.

There is a \$20 per person suggested donation, and the event is for men and women over 21. Food will include hors d'oeuvres, desserts and wine to taste and enjoy. Please sign-up in the church office or email Gayle at gyoung@komenmemorial.org.



Spread some joy by sending a message of love with a valentine to Salem's homebound members who are not able to attend worship and church activities on a regular basis. Valentine bags for our homebound members will be in the Library from **January 19 through February 9**. People to remember are: Walt Anderson, Natalee Arff, Susan Barham, Betty and Matthew Bennett, Alf Berg, Carl and Helen Buerger, Jr., Ruby Chelgren, Marge Gramm, Vi Gruber, Amy Hoffman, Bev Holmes, Shirley Hornecker, John Johnson, Bea Kent, Ruth Landes, Carl Lindquist, Bev Maier, Bill Mettam, Elaine McHugh, Paul and JoAnn Misselhorn, Nancy Owens, Kay Peterson, Fran Riley, John and Marge Ryberg, Arlene Schroeder, Irene Sawatzky, Cindy Turner and Roman Wegrzyn.

There is a sign-up sheet for you to volunteer to deliver on of these very special bags. Please contact Joan Creager at (309) 231-7724 if you have any questions.



On **Sunday, February 16** after second service, Salem Senior Ministries is organizing lunch followed by Singing Valentines. If you are interested in joining our group to sing please contact Joan Creager at (309) 231-7724. All singers of every age are welcome to join!



Volunteers are needed at Midwest Food Bank on **Wednesday, February 26 from 9am-11am**. Sign-up is located at the church office. Salem volunteers will be meeting at the Peoria Division location at 9005 N. Industrial Road, Peoria, IL 61615.

FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Fair Trade Sunday 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship	3	4 9am: Rebecca Circle 10am: Staff Meeting 7pm: Council Meeting	5 8:30am: Bible Lessons 6:30pm: Faith for Life 6:30pm: Naomi Circle 6:30pm: Praise Band Rehearsal 7:15pm: Serendipity	6 March Monthly Bugle Content Due 9:30am: Bible Study	7 12pm: Grown & Flown Mom's Group	8 3pm: Adult Fellowship at Fired Up
9 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship 12pm: Youth Group to Round One	10	11 9am: Northern Conference Meeting 6pm: Ladies' Night Out 7pm: Outreach Meeting 7:30pm: Faith Formation Meeting	12 6:45am: Endowment 8:30am: Bible Lessons 10am: Staff Meeting 6:30pm: Faith for Life 6:30pm: Praise Band Rehearsal 7:15pm: Serendipity	13 9:30am: Bible Study 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir Practice	14 12pm: Grown & Flown Mom's Group	15
16 Noisy Can Offering Youth Service 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship 12pm: Singing Valentines	17 7pm: Salem Churchmen at Lariat Club	18 10am: Staff Meeting 10:30am: Women of Salem Board Meeting 6:30pm: Congregational Care 7pm: Property & Finance Meeting	19 8:30am: Bible Lessons 6:30pm: Faith for Life 7:15pm: Serendipity	20 9:30am: Bible Study 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir Practice	21 12pm: Grown & Flown Mom's Group	22 6pm: More Than Pink Event
23 Sanctuary Choir 8am: Worship 9:15am: Education Hour 10:45am: Worship	24	25 10am: Staff Meeting 6:30pm: Lydia Circle	26 Ash Wednesday 8:30am: Bible Lessons 11am: Worship 9am: Midwest Food Bank 6:30pm: Worship 7:15pm: Serendipity	27 9:30am: Bible Study 1:30pm: LHV Worship	28 12pm: Grown & Flown Mom's Group	29

Be Like Jesus begins at 7pm at Advent Lutheran — Be Like Jesus ends at 7pm at Advent Lutheran

BE LIKE JESUS 24 HOUR SERVANT LOCK-IN

Northern Conference Youth Board "BE LIKE JESUS" 24-hour servant lock-in is on Friday, February 21 through Saturday, February 22 at Advent Lutheran Church.

Each February, 3rd through 6th graders from a variety of local congregations in our conference participate in a 24-hour servant lock-in. This annual event draws 150+ children and youth and includes worship with a nationally known Christian artist and hands-on small group service projects in the community, food, fellowship and fun. Small groups are led by high school students with support from adult youth leaders and volunteers from the Northern Conference. This is an incredible annual event for children. **Registration is available online and due to Jill Goldhammer by February 2, 2020.**



Will you be Thy neighbor?



Sanctuary Choir

Choir will be singing at both services on **February 23** with rehearsals on the **February 13 and 20 at 7:30pm**. New singers are welcome!



Wednesday, February 19, will be the last Wednesday night of Faith for Life as the season of Lent begins.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 Kappa Chi Youth Service

Kappa Chi Students have been hard at work preparing for the 2020 Youth Service which we be held during both worship services on **Sunday, February 16, 2020**. Please help us invite any Kappa Chi Alumni who are in the area to join us.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020

Please save the date for Vacation Bible School 2020 for the week of August 3-August 7 from 9am-12pm.



By the power at work within us, God is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine... or dream. - Ephesians 3:20

EXPANDING OUR POSSIBILITIES

A GIVING PROGRESS UPDATE

With **\$1,475,137.00** in total cash contributed and other gifts, this represents well over 70% of the total pledges made for this appeal. Included in these numbers is \$31,808 that was received from members who did not pledge and other sources including rent, cd interest, and gifts from Thrivent.

A special thanks to those who have completed their 3-year pledges, to those who have given above their 3-year pledges, and a special thanks for those who did not pledge but have contributed to the campaign. Please know that any gift is welcomed and helps with the amount of funds that will be borrowed to complete the project.

Please continue to pray for Salem and our future as we work our way through this process. A special thanks for all those who have taken an active role to see this to completion.

Salem has now completed 14 months of the capital campaign that concluded on December 31, 2021. The capital appeal is providing the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of love and faith for future generations. The response from members and friends has been very generous.

**PROJECT
GOAL
\$3.2 million**

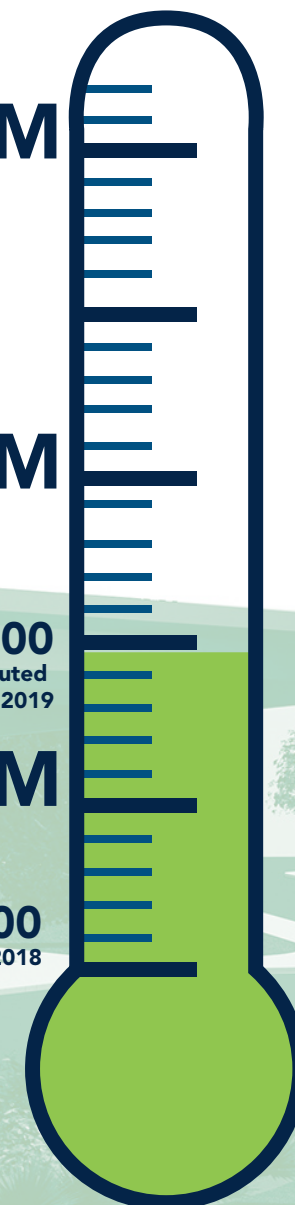
\$3M

\$2M

\$1,475,137.00
Total cash contributed
and other gifts received in 2019

\$1M

\$490,344.00
Cash contributions received in 2018





FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



February 1 Chris Cochran Lynnce Coyner Roxanne Vandervlugt	February 6 Rick Lambie	February 15 Anton Martin	February 24 Chad Arnold Gerri Hoehn Lesley Howard Christine Steele
February 2 Martin Wiesehan	February 7 Maren Thompson	February 16 Janet Jones	February 25 Jacob Ferrell
February 3 John Iverson Bill Ligon	February 8 Wendy Thomasson	February 18 Annette Doughty	February 26 Marla Breidel Mia Hoffman
February 4 Barbara Ackerman Landon Peterson Adelaide Taubert-Koss	February 9 Emily Peterson	February 19 Wendy Cochran Janet Cox John Harvey	February 27 Conner Bidne
February 5 Sarah Bidne Janet Wiesehan	February 10 Diane Proft	February 20 William Gavin Lila Moore	February 28 Teresa Wright
	February 11 Sandra Baumgarten	February 21 Noah Hopkins Vickie Larson Alan Puttcamp	
	February 12 Norma Hartman Lisa Janco		
	February 13 Allison Harvey		

A VIEW OF SALEM'S FINANCIAL STATUS

December 2019 Year-End Giving

God is at work doing incredible things at Salem Lutheran Church! Your generous year-end giving in December helped make this possible! As 2019 concluded, the annual church budget was met and exceeded by your generosity. It is exciting to see Salem ministries continue to thrive and grow, and opportunities are all around us as we move into 2020. This is a wonderful time to continue to pray for Salem's future work of growing people in Christ to love and serve.



\$243.51	\$180.74	\$239.37	315.65
-SEPTEMBER-	-OCTOBER-	-NOVEMBER-	-DECEMBER-

Thank you for your donations last month to the "Noisy Can Offering!" The "Noisy Can Offering" on **February 26**, and the weekly offering of Sunday School children will continue support Habitat for Humanity of Greater Peoria Area.

Thank you!

LHV Cookie Walk Update

The 2019 annual Cookie Walk was a sweet success! With generous donations of goodies from area Lutheran congregations, LWGP was able to raise close to \$2,000 for the Benevolent Fund! Our goal on Dec 13th was two grand and we did it!

We appreciate the assistance and support that we receive from the staff at LHV and our faithful customers. With the help of many volunteers from area churches, we were able to open ahead of schedule. Beginning at 7:45am, we had a steady stream of eager shoppers. Our best estimate is 140-160 customers during our three hour time frame.

• Thanks to our Salem family, Sunday school classes and Lydia Circle for the cards, wonderful gifts and treats delivered by Inez and Bruce Norgard. Walt loved hearing the familiar names on the cards. -Blessings, Walt & Joy Anderson.

• Thank so our friends at Salem for the lovely Christmas box which we so enjoyed. -Carl and Helen Buerger

• Thank you to friends of Salem for the beautiful poinsettia and to Helene Peterson who delivered it to us on Christmas Day. Truly showing loving service. -Keith and MaryAlice Erickson

• Thank you to my Salem friends and to Helene Peterson for bringing me your lovely Christmas remembrance of cards and delectable treats. Thank you to Dick and Helene Peterson for the lovely poinsettia. Christmas is the season of Goodwill. Your gifts truly shared that spirit of giving and spreading joy. Also to my Rebecca Circle for my birthday and Christmas joy too. Blessings to all, Bea Kent

• Thanks to everyone for the Christmas Bag that was filled with cards and goodies and to Sandy Harvey and Lydia Circle for the gifts that she brought and Pastor Craig for his visit. - Ruth Landes

• Many thanks to all who helped fill the Thinking of you Christmas bags with cars, treats and gifts. The cards and notes were nice to read and re-read, the gifts brightened my

apartment, and the treats were so tasty. Wish all of you a blessed new year. - Elaine McHugh

• Thank you for my lovely gift bag. I really enjoyed every card, picture and treat. It really brightened my day. Thank yo to Lori for delivering the bag. Always a welcome visitor. Love and Peace - Bev Maier

• Thank you to Alan Puttcamp for the visit and delivery of flowers. Both were appreciated. - Bev Maier

• A big thank you from Roman and Karla for the Christmas cards/goodies from our friends at Salem and the Sunday School classes. Also, a big thank you for the wonderful gift bag full of treats from the ladies of Lydia for Roman and myself! Roman especially enjoyed the cookies and chocolates. Thank you for thinking of this during the Christmas season. -Love, Karla and Roman

• Thank you again for remembering me at Christmas. Thank you to the Sunday School children and teachers. - Sincerely, Irene Sawatzky

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

- Salem's growing ministry

DIRECTION...

- Salem Congreg. Council
- Salem's Pastor, Deacon, Intern and Staff
- Salem's Renovation Project

PRAYERS 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
- Susie Bohm
- Luan Borquist
- Stephanie Dammann's grandfather
- Keith Erickson
- Gabe
- Gabriella
- Marge Gramm
- Individuals suffering from depression
- Jack Grant
- Laurie Hacker
- Ron Hipple
- Amy Hoffman
- Lisa Janco's mother
- Helen Johnson

- Lizzy
- Marta
- Morgan Lott
- Bill Mettam
- Karen Norman Rees' brother-in-law
- Dick Peterson
- Stephanie
- Tera
- Cindy Turner
- Ella Vandervlugt
- Wayne (brother of Barbi Ricketts)
- Fred and Lori Wysk

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

Stateside: Ian Borquist, Emily Graff, Jason Sterr, Col. Darnell Salley, Scott Wolfmeyer
Overseas: Barry Joyce and Talon Maki



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Joy & Thankfulness from Malawi



71 children in Malawi were fitted with clothing sent through the clothes drive from the Fall of 2019. The children were beyond excited, and they were able to wear a new outfit on Christmas Day (something they would have otherwise not been able to do.) Words cannot express what these children were feeling, but the hope is these photos give a small glimpse into the blessing that you are for these children! - excerpted message from Salem's Global Missions partner Luke Ulrich

