



the Bugle

PASTOR CRAIG SWENSON PSALM 36

Sometimes the words of another resonate in me so clearly that I feel it best to share those words as my own. Karen and I share a time of devotions each morning and following the reflection one morning, we looked at each other nodding in agreement that the words of this particular devotion rang true for both of us at this time. Pastor George Carlson is a retired pastor and shared the following regarding Psalm 36.

I hope you have just now read the Psalm. After the first four verses I want to ask, Who are "they"? Their hearts? Their eyes? Their mouths? Their beds? It bothers me when someone tells me, "They said..." or "They think..." I ask, "Who are 'They'?" Finally the last two verses of the psalm identify "they"—the arrogant, the wicked, the evildoers.

The psalmist shifts focus entirely in the middle verses. "Steadfast love...steadfast love...steadfast love" (vv. 5, 7, 10)—all and always from God. Boundless. Strong. Saving. Precious. Sheltering. Providing. Abundant. Source of light and life.

On what do we focus? We can be overwhelmed by the chaos of the world, the hatred and hurt, the destruction and division we witness, the evil threats to our lives. Or we can look at the gifts all around us that we did not create or earn—nature, air, soil, rain, sun, people, belonging, care, compassion, hope, trust, love. Above all, love—God's steadfast love. For all people. For you. Now. Always.

As fall approaches and we begin to ponder a return to numerous congregational programs and activities, we realize the opportunities we hoped for are yet complicated by a persistent pandemic and the caution that goes along with being together safely. It is easy to become overwhelmed by the worries and concerns, the frustrations and dampened plans due to the lingering pandemic. Some of us have grown weary of the daily reminder that the life we once knew is now changed and have decided to move on while others have once again confirmed that being distanced has kept them safe and remain resolute in efforts to continue that practice for the foreseeable future. Back and forth, we are worried and distracted by many things and the division uncertainty creates challenges our plans for the future. It is here that the words of the devotion help direct our focus and return us to dwell in the abiding and steadfast love of the Lord, even when life's future direction is a bit unclear and we may not always agree. We are "we" not "they" and we remain a family, one identified as Salem Lutheran Church and also one identified as a united fellowship of believers in Christ, each of us trying to find our way in the darkness and seeking assurance that God's love for us remains certain and constant even in the darkness. The light of Christ shines in us and through us and gives us reason to live with hope. Perhaps that is sufficient assurance for the present.



-Pastor Craig

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

For more information: saalemofpeoria.com/communications/calendar/

WORSHIP & MUSIC

SUNDAYS at 9am (in-person / livestream / live phone call)

RALLY DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 at 9am

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 at 10:15am: Church Rededication

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 at 6pm: Sanctuary Bells

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 at 7pm: Sanctuary Choir

FAITH FORMATION

BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 10:15am: Education Hour (in-person)

WEDNESDAYS at 10am: Adult Bible Study (zoom)

THURSDAYS at 9:15am: Adult Bible Study led by Bill Ligon (in-person)

OUTREACH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 10am-12pm:

Bethel Food Pantry Drop-off and Fair Trade Pick-up

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1pm-6pm in the Social Hall:
Salem Blood Drive

FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12: Church Picnic (following rededication and Sunday School "meet the teacher")

SUNDAYS following worship: Coffee Hour (in-person)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 at 7pm: Salem Churchmen

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 at 7:30pm: Book Club (zoom)

MINISTRY GROUPS

TUESDAY, SEPT 7 at 7pm: Salem Council Meeting (in-person)

TUESDAY, SEPT 13 at 6:30pm: Cong. Care Ministry (hybrid)

TUESDAY, SEPT 14 at 7pm: Outreach Ministry

TUESDAY, SEPT 14 at 7:30pm: Faith Formation Ministry (in-person)

MONDAY, SEPT 20 at 7pm: Worship & Music Ministry (hybrid)

TUESDAY, SEPT 21 at 7pm: Property & Finance Ministry (in-person)

THURSDAY, SEPT 30 at 7pm: Executive Committee Mtg (zoom)

SPECIAL EVENT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 5pm: More Than Pink Shrimp Boil (at the Glawe's outdoor patio)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 6:30pm: Pray for the Cure



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



Come and enjoy the morning at Salem Lutheran Church on **Sunday, September 12**. It is up to your comfort level to participate in the Rally Day events:

- **9am:** Worship in the sanctuary or livestream
- **10:15am-11:30am:**
 - Rededication outside under the canopy
 - Games organized by the Salem Churchmen
 - Meet the Teacher
 - Salem Church Picnic

CHOIRS RESUME!

SANCTUARY CHOIR

If you love to sing or have ever considered sharing your talents for Salem's choir - find your joy as choir practice resumes on **Thursday, September 16 at 7pm**. This is an open call to anyone that would like to join!

SANCTUARY BELL CHOIR

Salem Bell Choir will resume on **Thursday, September 16 at 6pm**.

There is no experience necessary for Salem's choirs. Come and raise a joyful sound! If you have questions, please contact Maggie Slotter (mslotter@saalemofpeoria.com).

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 10:15AM-11:30AM SALEM CHURCH PICNIC

ALL INVITED!

Bring a friend to Salem as all are invited to the Salem Church Picnic hosted by the Salem Church men on **Rally Sunday, September 12**. The picnic will be held at Salem and the Salem Churchmen will provide the meal which will include pulled pork, smokehouse beans and dessert. We'll have fun and games while observing covid-19 protocols. To help reduce contact the entire meal will be served by the Salem Churchmen.

SATURDAY, SEPT 11, 10AM-12PM OUTREACH CURBSIDE

BETHEL FOOD DRIVE

Continuing the support for Bethel United Methodist, food pantry with donations of non-perishable items, drive by drop off on **Saturday, September 11 between 10 am-12pm**.

FAIR TRADE

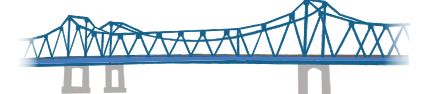
Fair Trade pick-up will also be **Saturday, September 11 from 10am-12pm**. If there are any items needed to be picked up at another time please contact Jennifer Gallas (309-256-5862 or pew117@aol.com).

WORSHIP

Covid-19 protocols were reviewed at the **August 3** Council meeting, and after much conversation it was decided to continue current practices without restrictions. Individuals are entrusted with the responsibility of practicing physical distancing and wearing of face coverings in the building as desired.

- Live online worship service and drive-up communion (from 10am-10:30am on Sunday) remain available for those who prefer these options over in-person worship.
- An appointed team is monitoring local case numbers and will advise the executive committee of changes that might impact how we gather at Salem.

RENEWING GOD'S MISSION



BRIDGING TO THE FUTURE

MEET THE TEACHER

SUNDAY, SEPT. 12
at 10:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF

Education hour is moving to **10:15am** and on **Rally Sunday, September 12** students will have the opportunity to Meet the Teacher after the church rededication. Parents and students will have the chance to explore the facilities. It is up to your family's comfort level to come and enjoy the entire morning during Rally Day. **Classes for all ages begins on Sunday, September 19 at 10:15am.**

MOVING TO SUNDAYS

Faith for Life (grades 5-8) faith formation is moving to Sunday mornings during education hour. Please make sure to check your email and postal mail.



KAPPA CHI PARENT & YOUTH KICK-OFF MEETING

Please join fellow Kappa Chi families for one of the following 2021-2022 kick-off meetings as we gather to reconnect in Christ and consider the upcoming year. Families have two options:

IN PERSON MEETING: SUNDAY, AUGUST 29; 6:30pm - 8pm AT CHURCH

ON-LINE MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1; 6:30pm - 8pm ON ZOOM

ZOOM DETAILS:

Kappa Chi Parent &
Youth Kick Off Meeting
Time: Sep 1, 2021, 6:30PM
Meeting ID: 813 9928 3403
Passcode: 618540

2022 is an ELCA YOUTH GATHERING year and Salem DOES intend to take a group to this GIANT Faith Forming Experience. Planning for the event, which will take place in **Minneapolis, July 24-28, 2022**, is in full-swing. Obviously, there are still some unknowns at this time and if we've learned anything in the past 18 months, it's that plans may have to change. But, we move forward in FAITH that God has called the ELCA Youth Organization to Minneapolis to do the work of Jesus in the summer of 2022 and we are very excited to be a part of that call.

Please make sure to RSVP to Jill Goldhammer (jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com). If you are unable to gather with the group for one of the meetings, please contact Jill to set another time to meet and answer any Gathering and year ahead questions.



CHURCH REDEDICATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
10:15AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 at 10:15AM

CHURCH REDEDICATION

With the renovation completed, it is time to celebrate the project and the generosity that has and continues to pay for this work and move us

closer to a time when less resources will be needed for debt reduction and more available as ministry support. A brief worship service will take place at the canopy entrance as we give thanks for what has taken place and ask God's blessing for what is yet to come as a result of renewed and redefined spaces.

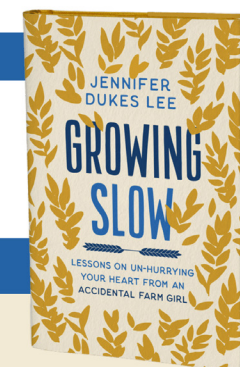
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 at 10:15AM ALL CLASSES RESUME

Faith Formation has been working to consider various education opportunities for Salem members so that we can continue to fulfill Salem's mission of *Growing in Christ... to love and serve.*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 at 7:30PM-8:30PM

SALEM BOOK CLUB

Join Salem Book Club as we discuss *Growing Slow* by Jennifer Dukes Lee. We meet via Zoom and if you would like to join us for one month or consistently, you are welcome!. Email Gretchen at gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com for monthly reminders and Zoom links or check the *Bugle Blast* for information.



CHECK-OUT THIS BOOK
FROM SALEM'S LIBRARY

GROWING SLOW

LESSONS ON UN-HURRYING
YOUR HEART FROM AN
ACCIDENTAL FARM GIRL

SALEM BOOK CLUB

Thursday, September 30
at 7:30pm on zoom

About this month's book:

We long to make a break from the fast pace of life... but if we're honest, we're afraid of what we'll miss if we do. Yet when going big and hustling hard leaves us stressed, empty, and out of sorts, perhaps this can be our cue to step into a far more satisfying, sustainable pace. In this crafted, inspiring read, beloved author Jennifer Dukes Lee offers a path to unhurried living by returning to the rhythm of the land and learning the ancient art of *Growing Slow*.

Jennifer was once at breaking point herself, and tells her story of rude awakening to the ways her chosen lifestyle of running hard, scaling fast, and the neverending chase for results was taking a toll on her body, heart, and soul. But when she finally gave herself permission to believe it takes time to grow good things, she found a new kind of freedom. With eloquent truths and vivid storytelling, Jennifer reflects on the lessons she learned from living on her fifth-generation family farm and the insights she gathered from the purposeful yet never rushed life of Christ. *Growing Slow* charts a path out of the pressures of bigger, harder, faster, and into a more rooted way of living where the growth of good things is deep and lasting.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER, RN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1pm-6pm

SALEM BLOOD DRIVE

Salem's next Blood Drive will be **September 20, 2021, from 1pm – 6pm**. We will be back at Salem for this drive, and it will be held in the Social Hall. We will only have the Red Cross's individually wrapped snacks and bottled water at this time. There are time slots for both whole blood donation and Power Reds. I often get asked "what is the difference?" As the name implies, "whole blood" donation includes all of the contents within the blood. This includes red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets, and plasma. Whole blood donations are typically used to help patients fight cancer, blood disorders and traumatic injuries. The Power Red donation enables the donor to safely donate two units of red blood cells at just one appointment! The Power Red donation is like the whole blood donation, except a special machine is used to ensure two units of exclusively red blood cells are collected. The machine returns the other blood components to you. The Red Cross highly encourages donors with O+, O-, A- and B- blood types to try a Power Red donation.

You are qualified to donate Power Reds if you have not donated **since May 31** and whole blood if not donated **since July 26**. To register to donate you can contact Lori Reimer through the church office or her email, lreimer@salemofpeoria.com. You may also register online at redcrossblood.org and search for Salem's drive. If anyone is willing to help at the drive, contact Lori Reimer. Thanks in advance.



Lori Reimer, RN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 FROM 4PM to 7PM at REGG & BARB GLAWE'S OUTDOOR PATIO

MORE THAN PINK FUNDRAISER

The More Than Pink Walk will be in person this year, and once again, the Salem Saints team is in place. Salem Saints are hosting its annual fundraiser event this year on **Sunday, September 26 from 4pm to 7pm**. It will be an outdoor shrimp boil at Regg and Barb Glawe's patio at their home in Dunlap. There will be several fundraising baskets to bid on including trips, wine baskets, theater tickets, dinners and more! A free-will offering will be taken (\$20 per person is the suggested donation.)



Please plan to bring your own lawn chair, and to help plan for the event please RSVP online through the Bugle Blast or at <https://salemofpeoria.com/more-thank-pink-fundraiser-2021/>. If you can't join us for the fundraiser, or join the team, you may donate through links in the Bugle Blast or the Salem Saints More Than Pink webpage.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 at 6:30PM

18th ANNUAL PRAY FOR THE CURE™

The 18th Annual PRAY for the CURE™ will be held on **Thursday, September 30th at 6:30pm** at Salem Lutheran Church. The event will be livestreamed on Salem's website. Pray for the Cure addresses the issue of breast cancer, however all persons affected by cancer are invited to participate in the prayer service.

Join us for this ecumenical prayer service that brings together breast cancer survivors, thrivers, and their family and caregivers, health care providers, and local support agencies and organizations. PRAY for the CURE enhances spiritual well-being during treatment, recovery and beyond disease. This event serves as a prelude to the Komen Peoria More Than Pink Walk® which will be held on **Saturday, October 2, 2021**.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS! SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1
Julie Doty

September 3
Emily Jolliff

September 4
Greg Grebner
Caidon Hickey
Talon Witt

September 5
Carole Love
Robert Middleton,
Sr.
David Swanson

September 6
Katherine Hancock
Nancy Knobloch

September 8
Mary Gibson
Suzanne Ligon

September 9
Jamie Hancock

September 10
Laura
VanLaningham

September 11
Paul Misselhorn
Melissa Snider

September 12
Caleb Brinkman
Grant Kroodsma

September 13
Jennifer Friberg
Donald Hamann
Jordyn Manning
David
Thomasson

September 14
Amy Hoffman

September 15
Kadyn Cochran
Jeffrey Hamann
Riley Moore

September 15
Marlene
Peterson

September 16
Connor Kelly
Henry Noe

September 17
David Rees

September 18
Kevin Setterlund

September 20
Ella Hartman
Tim Koeltzow
Kylee Lambie
Drew Swanson

September 21
Karl Larson

September 22
Haley Aubrey
A.J. Bastian
Rebecca Glawe

September 22
Nicole
Vandervlugt

September 23
Daniela Gonzales
Bruce Norgard
Donna Siegrist
Alex Swanson

September 24
Inez Norgard

September 26
Alice Bahnfleth
Kelly Brinkman
Justin Machacek

September 28
Barbara Glawe

September 29
Alyssa Glawe

September 30
James Patterson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOUS

- Condolences for the family and friends of Martha "Marty" Burgeson. Marty joined the church triumphant on July 4, 2021. Please pray for all who mourn Marty's passing.
- Condolences for the friends and family of Shirley Hornecker. Shirley joined the church triumphant on Friday, July 23. Shirley did office work for several different businesses and was very pleased to work a long time in the office for Salem Lutheran Church. She made many close friends with the people she worked with. Prayers for all who mourn Shirley's passing.
- Thank you to Paula Sydow for your visit, and for bringing a cute plant. Thank you-Susan Barham
- Thank you to the Vacation Bible School for my "Planted in Good Soil," plant and pot. The pot is so cheery and the plant is thriving. Thank you to Susan Ross for her visit and delivery. It's so nice to be remembered. Thank you - Beverly Maier

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

- Salem's growing ministry

DIRECTION...

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

PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- All those affected with COVID-19
- The men and women of our armed forces
- Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer
- Individuals suffering from depression
- People of Guatemala
- Ulrich family in Malawi
- Families at Crittenton Center
- Midwest Food Bank
- Betty Ahlgren
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Lesly Baumgarten
- Susie Bohm
- Luan Borquist

- Butch Conard
- Bill Cox
- MaryAlice Erickson
- Ethan, grandson of Bea Kent
- Marilyn Franson
- Gabe
- Jack Grant
- Ron Hipple
- Helen Johnson
- Lizzie
- Morgan Lott
- Marta
- Bill Mettam
- Tom Mueller
- Dr. Rick O'Connor
- Lana Pasco
- Rosy Park
- Steven Naug
- Lori Reimer's great niece and their family
- Lori Reimer's cousin's young

grandchildren battling Covid-19

- Teddy's full recovery and for his family
- Gayle Young
- Vince and Mickey

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

Stateside: Clarence Gomez, Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Ashley Owen, Lucas Owen, Jim Sterling, Jason Sterr, Scott Wolfmeyer
Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki

If you would like your prayer request to appear on the prayer list beyond this one month period, please submit a new request each month. Thanks for your partnership in Salem's prayer ministry.

Please contact the church office with prayer requests at: 309-688-9212 or contact Norma Hartman at: 309-240-8387 or at nkhartman248@gmail.com.

The Bugle
USPS 477-460



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

RALLY  **DAY**

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Worship • Learn • Celebrate