

# NEWSLETTER

# THE BUILDER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

DEC. 2022



## WELCOME!

### GET IN TOUCH

**Church Address:** 115 N Washington Ave,  
Albert Lea MN 56007  
**Phone:** 507.373.2184  
**Fax:** 507.377.8990  
**Website:** [salemalbertlea.org](http://salemalbertlea.org)  
**Worship:** Sunday 9:00 am

### STAFF

**Pastor:** Pastor Daphne Hamborg  
[hamborg4144@gmail.com](mailto:hamborg4144@gmail.com)  
507-473-5337  
**Secretary:** Vicki Reichl  
Email: [secretary@salemalbertlea.org](mailto:secretary@salemalbertlea.org)  
Cell: 507.402.1775  
**Custodian:** Ray Smith

### OFFICE HOURS:

Tue - Wed | 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Thu | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### UPCOMING EVENTS DECEMBER AT SALEM

### Women of Salem

The next meeting Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 10:00 a.m.  
All Salem Women are welcome!

### Women of Salem Bible Study

Thursday, Dec. 15 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. on Luke. Led  
by Pastor Daphne Hamborg. Bring your Bible and a  
beverage if desired.



### Christmas Worship at Salem

Saturday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25th 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship Service



**Christmas Service**  
*Schedule*

## From the Pastor:

Dear Friends,

What do we do with December? It's a combination of Advent and Christmas, two church seasons that speak one another but also stand apart.

Traditionally, the church maintains strict boundaries between the two seasons. For example, Christmas hymns are to be used only at Christmas, not snuck into Sundays of Advent. Why? Advent (a lot like Lent) is to be a season of preparation. It especially focuses on the spiritual discipline of waiting, anticipating.

But my Christmas decorations have been up for a few weeks already. When I needed to lay low after yet another Covid exposure, I decided to spend time preparing my condo for Christmas. A Christmas tree, a lighted garland, candles, a smaller Christmas tree in my three-season porch, and decorations in every room. Also some decorations out in my part of the hallway. I am ready. Lights and color, the perfect antidote to the early darkness of early winter.

Clearly, I don't object to overlaying Advent and Christmas. That blurring reflects our lives, which continually move between uncertainty (including waiting, anticipating) and often surprising, even wondrous, fulfillment. As you decorate, whether in large or small ways, let the colors, warmth, and especially the lights remind you of the one message shared by both Advent and Christmas seasons: Jesus is the Light, the light that fills the world. Ponder this truth. It fills our spirits.

In Christ,  
Pastor Daphne



## FINANCIAL CORNER

### OCT. INCOME

\$ 13,053.00

### OCT.. EXPENSES

\$ 10,409.89

### 2022 INCOME:

\$ 108,741.99

### 2022 FROM SCHWAB:

\$ 20,000

### 2022 OTHER INCOME:

\$

### NOISY OFFERING:

LITTLE FREE PANTRY: \$ 369.51

### Finance Committee

In order to get credit for financial contributions in the month of December, all offerings need to be at the church by December 27, 2022.

### Free Monitor

We have one computer-monitor to give away. If interested please talk to Bruce Ness or Sharon Dilling.

### Unofficial Council Hi-Lites— November 15. 2022

-Called to order by Beth Spande.

-Devotions by Annette Petersen.

Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Reports were approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Daphne asked for prayers for her family.

### Committee Reports

-Worship & Music: Shari reported Christmas program Dec. 18.

Stewardship: Kathy reported Temple Talk November 27.

31 pledge cards returned—\$61,500.

### Old Business

-Doorbells—Troy working on.

-Shared Ministry-Council reviewed Shared Ministry Agreement. Salem Lutheran church council moved to recommend contracting Pr. Mark Boorsma as per the Shared Ministry agreement on motion by Bruce, seconded by Kathy and motion carried. To be introduced at the special congregational meeting on Dec. 4th as Shared Ministry Agreement as recommended by Salem Lutheran Church Council.

-Reviewed 2023 Budget Proposal. Bruce made a motion to approve 2023 budget draft for further review. 2nd by Kathy and passed.

### New Business:

-December Noisy Offering will go to the Little Free Pantry.

-Annual Congregational Meeting set for January 22, 2023 on motion by Kathy, seconded by Bruce and passed.

-All Thanksgiving offerings will go to the food pantries on motion by Shari, seconded by Kathy. M/C

-Personnel—on motion by Bruce, 2nd by Shari to give 3 weeks PTO to secretary & custodian beginning 1-1-23. M/C Motion by Kathy, seconded by Shari to give 5% raise to support staff for 2023. M/C

-Newsletter to promote 100 anniversary of Salem building.

---Meeting was adjourned.

Altar Plants

Dec. 4: Gene & Sharon Weckwerth

Dec. 11: Caroline Neale

Dec. 18: Eva Johnsrud

Dec. 25: plants

SOS Christmas Party

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Noon Potluck

\$5 Gift Exchanges

Dirty Bingo

Christmas Carol Sing-a-long

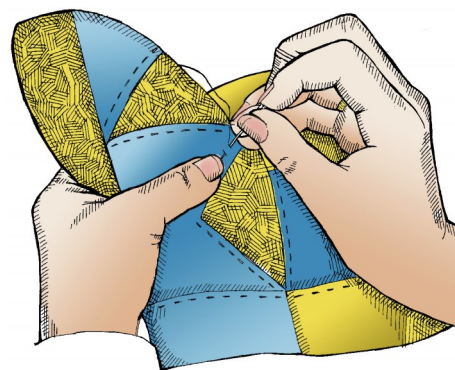
100th Anniversary

The year 2022 marks a significant milestone for Salem--the 100th anniversary of the construction of the building. There have been changes to it, but the basic building still stands! Articles and photographs are on display in the Gathering Place, which document the construction. Take time to check these out.



## Sew 'n' Tell

Will not be meeting in  
December. Back to work in  
January 2023.



QUILTING GROUP

Men's Bible Study

Dec. 2

Dec. 9

Dec. 16

Dec. 23

Dec. 30

Gather at 6:30 a.m. and have a cup of coffee, talk and share some scripture. All are welcome!





Angel Tree: Salem will be again be doing Angel Tree tags. Pick a tag from the tree, purchase a gift for a child and return the unwrapped gift with the tag attached. We also will be collecting mittens, gloves, stocking hats and scarfs for children. Thank you.

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Memorials: Given in memory of Lyle Boelter to Sew 'N Tell, Little Free Pantry and Salem Altar Guild from family and friends.

Given in memory of Steven Olson to Little Free Pantry.



Please remember the Little Free Pantry at Salem. This is a time of year of great need. You may bring your donations of non- perishable food items at any time. Cash donations are also very appreciated. In November we gathered \$369.51 in Noisy Offerings gifts to help stock the Little Free Pantry.



Poinsettias for Christmas at Salem: Cost is \$13. Please pay with your order to Salem Altar Guild. Order by December 18th.

Given in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ will pick up

\_\_\_ will not pick up

**DECEMBER**  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Dec. 1 Tony Flatten
- Dec. 5 Jacob Johnsrud, Eleanor Ott
- Dec. 6 Eleanor Dilling
- Dec. 8 Steve Bendickson, Eva Johnsrud
- Dec. 12 Pam Jacobsen, Hayden Steele
- Dec. 17 Nathan Rudgroden
- Dec. 18 Don Eckart
- Dec. 19 Raegan Sternhagen
- Dec. 22 Barb Ayers
- Dec. 25 Shari Budach
- Dec. 26 Reid Ulve
- Dec. 27 Eunice Maberry
- Dec. 30 Audrey Johannsen

Dec. 29 Clarence & Janice Ayers 65 years



*The Gift that  
Changed the World*

**LET US PRAY...**

- Larry Enderson*
- Woody Hestness*
- Susan Storlie*
- Shirley Eustis*
- Bob Cotton*

*Our prayers are with Ruth Boelter and family  
on the death of Lyle Boelter.*



Salem Lutheran Church

115 N Washington Ave  
Albert Lea MN 56007-2488

"Change Service Requested"

## THE BUILDER DECEMBER, 2022

*Salem  
Lutheran  
Church is a  
Christ-Centered  
Community,  
building  
relationships,  
growing in  
faith, and  
serving others.*

