

NEWSLETTER

THE BUILDER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

FEB. 2025



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
Worship: Sunday 10:00 am

STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Mark Boorsma
mboorsma@aol.com
507-377-2459
Secretary: Vicki Reichl
Email: 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 FEB. AT SALEM

Women of Salem

Bible Study—Thursday, February 20th at Salem at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. led by Pr. Mark Boorsma.

We are also invited by our Ascension friends to join in on their Bible Chapter Book Club. This meets via Zoom each Sunday at 11:30 a.m. You can attend two ways:

Gather Bible Study (second Tuesday) 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Same number as Book Club.

-by computer with the Zoom app
<https://zoom.us/j/6751859971>

or by phone
(meeting ID



312-626-6799
6751859971##).

Dates to Remember

Feb. 13: 4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting

Feb. 18: 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting



From the Pastor:

Charles Austin Miles, a former pharmacist, became a writer of gospel songs. His 1912 “In the Garden” became especially beloved by many. You’ve probably heard it:

*I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.*

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

Perhaps part of its appeal is the suggestion of a warm, personal, ‘just me and Jesus’ vibe. No doubt the song was inspired, in part, by Mary Magdalene’s own personal encounter with the risen Jesus.

But I’m about to rain on anybody’s private parade. As much as any of us might wish Jesus all to ourselves, there are usually **crowds**.

Crowds surround the Holy Family as they carry the infant Jesus into the Jerusalem Temple and encounter two elder saints — Simeon and Anna.

Crowds press in to hear as Jesus stands beside a lake, so he commandeers Simon’s boat as a floating pulpit. Then he reveals his glory in an astonishingly huge catch of fish, after which he calls those experienced fishermen to switch to people-fishing instead.

Crowds surround Jesus on a plain, and he teaches them surprising reversals about those whom God regards as blessed.

The crowds are an Epiphany clue: Jesus reaches out to the many, not just a few. Jesus serves up the abundant glory of God in “good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over.”

Come and see!

- Pastor Mark Boorsma



FINANCIAL CORNER

DECEMBER INCOME

\$ 12,155.50

DECEMBER EXPENSES

\$ 11,177.46

2024 INCOME:

\$ 128,036.00

2024 FROM SCHWAB:

\$5,000

2024 OTHER INCOME:

\$

MEMORIALS

GIFTS WERE GIVEN IN MEMORY
OF KERMIT IVERSON AND
ELWOOD HESTNESS TO THE
SALEM ROOF FUND
AND SALEM MEMORIAL FUND.

Noisy Offering

February & March will be
Split:

50% Ecumenical Food Pantry
And
50% Salvation Army Food
Pantry

Please be generous!

January Noisy Offering was
\$226.62 to the Little Free
Pantry. Thank you.

Unofficial Council Hi-Lites—January 23, 2025

- Call to order by President Beth Spande.
- Devotions by Pastor Mark Boorsma.
- Secretary's Report and Treasurers Report approved on motion by Larry Lahs Sr., seconded by Annette Petersen and passed.
- Old Business
- Annual Meeting January 26th. Brunch will be served before the meeting. Using Thrivent funds for brunch expenses on motion by Kim Luhring, seconded by Deb Stolarcek and passed.
- New Constitution: Will be voted on January 26th at the annual meeting and the second vote needed will be on Sunday March 23 on motion by Bruce Ness, seconded by Kathy Woodside and passed.

New Business:

- February & March Noisy Offering will be going to be split between the Ecumenical Food Pantry and the Salvation Army Food Pantry on motion by Bruce Ness, seconded by Larry Lahs Sr. Motion carried.
- Thrivent request by Sew 'N Tell for \$151.94 was approved on motion by Kim Luhring, seconded by Kathy Woodside and passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting February 18th at 6:30.



Little Free Pantry

It is important to keep our Little Free Pantry stocked the best we can. Help if you are able.

Some ideas are:

Cold cereal

Hot cereal

Bread Cake & Muffin mixes

Mac & Cheese

Soups

Canned Fruits

Crackers Chips Cookies

Canned Meats

White & Brown Sugar, Flour

Puddings & Jello

Food items can be put into the pantry or dropped off at church. Coin or cash donations may be put in the offering plate (marked Little Free Pantry). Thank you for Sharing!

Sew 'n' Tell

February 11

and

February 25

Friday Morning Bible Study

February 7

February 14

February 21

February 28

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

Salem Church Council 2025

Beth Spande Bethspande@gmail.com	President	507-377-8214 507-383-5842
Larry Lahs Sr.	Vice President	507-377-2298
Annette Petersen annpete3@hotmail.com	Secretary	507- 383-9948
Bruce Ness bruceness@hotmail.com	Treasurer	507-383-7630
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Kim Luhring kkluhring@gmail.com	Budget/Finance	507-383-7807
Kathy Woodside Johnson.creative@yahoo.com	Church in Society Missions	507-369-3487
Vacant	Outreach	
Shari Budach mombudach@hotmail.com	Education (partnered with Ascension)	507-373-0463 507-402-1712
Vacant	Youth	
Paul Dilling pjdilling@charter.net	Building & Grounds	507- 377-1831 507-383-6306
Kathy Paul	Stewardship	507-377-1318
Pastor Mark Boorsma mboorsma@aol.com		507- 377-2459 507- 373-2184

This is our Church Council. Please feel free to call or email them with any questions.



- Feb. 1 Alice Jacobson
- Feb. 3 Amanda Dilling
- Feb. 5 Mary Lahs

- Feb. 13 Laura Delano, Caroline Neale
- Feb. 14 Riley Reichl
- Feb. 15 Linda Larson, Adyen Woodside
- Feb. 16 Julie Dorman
- Feb. 17 Angie Jackson
- Feb. 19 Troy Waldemar
- Feb. 21 Jaclyn Flatness, Paul Thompson
- Feb. 24 Barry Heilman
- Feb. 28 Barb Scheib

- Feb. 9: Kent & Vick Reichl—51 years
- Feb. 27: Dwight & Mary Stevens—60 years

Happy
ANNIVERSARY

LET US PRAY...
*Mary Paul
 Pat Dollum
 Dan Hensche
 Harold Holty
 Roger Holty
 Roger Hanna
 Les Anderson*

Our prayers are Kathy DePoppe on the death of her brother, Joseph Shaunce.

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Pauline Hall.

Our prayers are with Sharon Weckwerth and family on the death of her brother, David Bleckeberg.



Salem Lutheran Church
115 N Washington Ave
Albert Lea MN 56007-2488

"Change Service Requested"

THE BUILDER FEBRUARY, 2025

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

