

NEWSLETTER

THE BUILDER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

JAN. 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 JANUARY AT SALEM

Women of Salem

Bible Study—Thursday, January 16th 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

January 12th: A brief meeting after worship for any questions or comments you may have regarding the revised constitution that will be presented at our January 26th annual meeting.

Jan. 21: 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Jan. 26: A light brunch will be served after worship and hold the annual meeting at 11:30 a.m. in the Lower Auditorium. Please plan to attend.

Annual Reports

If you have a report for the Annual Report PLEASE
Get it to the church office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

From the Pastor:

Imagine sitting in a darkened theater. Most of the audience is already settled, and ushers help latecomers find their way to seats. A pit orchestra plays music that sets a mood of excitement and anticipation. The music swells, the curtain opens, and the stage is bathed in bright light. The show has begun.

Just as the parting curtain reveals an unfolding drama, just so does Epiphany (both the Day and the season) reveal **Jesus** — his identity, his personality, and his mission.

At the baptism of Jesus, a heavenly voice reveals him as the Beloved Son, with whom the Father is well pleased. At a wedding in Cana, instant wine reveals the one through whom all things were made as one-and-the-same as that first vine-maker on the Third Day of creation, and the festive wedding-guest bringer of joy and gladness into the present.

In his hometown synagogue, Jesus reads from the Isaiah scroll that promised a coming day of the Lord's justice and favor. Then Jesus astonishes his hearers by revealing, "Today is the day!"

Epiphany reveals the saving love of Jesus for this world, and the many ways he is mending it still. In the theaters, train stations, banquets, post offices, businesses, homes, and congregations in which we gather, Jesus shows up and reveals his glory — not so often with trumpet fanfare or in-your-face intensity, but always with quiet presence and abiding compassion.

So get comfortable. The Jesus show has begun, and you're in for a real treat!

- Pastor Mark Boorsma



FINANCIAL CORNER

NOVEMBER INCOME

\$ 9,907.00

NOVEMBER EXPENSES

\$ 11,355.61

2024 INCOME:

\$ 115,920.50

2024 FROM SCHWAB:

\$5,000

2024 OTHER INCOME:

\$

DECEMBER

LITTLE FREE PANTRY: 52.86

Memorials

Given in memory of Woody Hestness and in memory of Kermit Iverson for the Salem Roof Fund.

From Stewardship

Thank you to all that completed pledge cards for 2025. The total pledge amount was 77,520. The anticipated expense budget to be presented at the annual meeting will be over 149,000.

Unofficial Council Hi-Lites—December 17, 2024

- Call to order by President Beth Spande.
- Devotions by Pastor Mark Boorsma.
- Treasurers Report: Motion to transfer funds to mission account from 2024 distribution approved on motion by Shari Budach, seconded by Larry Lahs Sr.
- Pastor's Report: Pastor Mark reported on funerals for Kermit Iverson and Elwood Hestness. Christmas Eve service at 4 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran.

Old Business

- Annual Meeting date has been changed to Sunday, January 26th at 11:30 a.m. with a light brunch following worship.
- Nominating Committee: Still needs to fill a council position for this committee.
- Constitution: January 12th congregation will meet with comments and questions on changes to the constitution.

-New Business:

- January Noisy Offering will be going to the Little Free Pantry on motion by Shari Budach, seconded by Annette Petersen. Motion carried.
 - Reports for the Annual Report should get to the Church Secretary as soon as possible.
 - Up to 10% from Mission to be used for General Fund on 1st by Kim Luhring, seconded by Larry Lahs Sr. and passed.
 - Goal of raising 25,000 for the roof fund passed on motion by Shari Budach, seconded by Annette Petersen.
- Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting January 21st, 2025 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!

Noisy Offering for January will go to the Little Free Pantry.



January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Altar Guild

The 2025 flower calendar is available for sign up in the Gathering Space. Cost is \$30 per Sunday.

January 12: Gene & Sharon Weckwerth

Sew 'N Tell (8:30 a.m.)

January 14 and January 28th.
All are welcome!

Friday Morning Bible Study

January 3

January 10

January 17

January 24

January 31

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

Things to Remember

On Sunday, January 12th there will be a brief meeting after the worship service to hear any questions or comments you have regarding the proposed Salem constitution that will be presented at the January 26th annual meeting of Salem.

Annual Reports

If you have a report due for the annual report please get it to the church office as soon as you are able. Contact Vicki at 507-373-2184 or 507-402-1775 if you have any questions.

Annual Meeting

After the worship service on Sunday, January 26th there will be a light brunch followed by the meeting in the Lower Auditorium at 11:30 a.m. All are invited and encouraged to attend!

Our Mission Statement

***Salem Lutheran Church is a
Christ-Centered Community,***

Building relationships,

Growing in faith,

And serving others.

cele
JANUARY
Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jan. 1: Mike & Julie Dorman -43

Jan. 1 Adam Kermes

Jan. 2 Roger Holty

Jan. 4 Kim Heilman

Jan. 7 Roger Hanna

Jan . 12 Dennis Johnson

Jan. 17 Terri Cheever

Jan. 22 Randy Rugroden

Jan. 23 Bill Sherman

Jan. 24 Delores Hanna, Morgan Luhring

Jana. 30 Diane Henry

Happy
ANNIVERSARY



LET US PRAY...

Larry Enderson

Mary Paul

Terry Olson

Pat Dollum

Dan Hensche

Don Eckart

-Family & friends of:

Kermit Iverson

Elwood Hestness

Kenneth Ayers



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

"Change Service Requested"

THE BUILDER JANUARY, 2025

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

