

# NEWSLETTER

# THE BUILDER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

JUNE 2024



## 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

#### JULY AT SALEM

### Women of Salem

Bible Study—Thursday, July 18th 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##).

### Deployment

Zoe Keeney is deployed to Kuwait. Please keep Zoe in your prayers.

### Dates

Sunday, July 7 & July 14: "Salem On the Road" - services at both St. John's facilities (see Pr. Mark's Letter for details)

Tuesday, July 16: 6:30 p.m. Church Council Mtg.

Women of Salem will not meet this summer. Next meeting will be in September.

Sew 'N Tell: has large amounts of donated yarn if someone would want to pick up some and knit or crochet scarfs, mittens or stocking hats.

## From the Pastor:

In order to worship with family, friends, and neighbors who live at Saint John's Lutheran Community, Salem will take worship "on the road" on July 7 and 14. Both Sundays, you have choices: attend the **8:45** service at Knutson Place (801 Luther Place, Albert Lea) or the **10:30** service at the Fountain Lake Chapel (1861 Eagle View Circle, Albert Lea).

Four congregations will participate in worship together: Salem, Ascension, Christ Episcopal, and the resident Saint John's Lutheran Community.

The Reverend Melford Knutson (1905-1973) came to Albert Lea in 1943 and in the 1950's started sharing his vision of a retirement home for area elders. Saint John's was created in 1961 by Salem and 27 other Lutheran congregations. In January 1962, the first residents moved in. Salem members have long been residents, contributors, volunteers, and all-around supporters of this important community resource.

These first two Sundays in July give us an opportunity to refresh and express Salem's long-standing relationship with Saint John's. You will enjoy this chance to worship with family, friends, and neighbors you don't usually see on a Sunday morning, as we join our hearts and voices together in prayer and praise.

As on any other Sunday, your presence and support are crucial. See **you** there!

*– Pastor Mark Boorsma*



## FINANCIAL CORNER

### MAY INCOME

\$ 7,269.00

### MAY EXPENSES

\$ 16,289.74

### 2024 INCOME:

\$ 57,754.50

### 2024 FROM SCHWAB:

\$

### 2024 OTHER INCOME:

\$

### NOISY OFFERING:

LITTLE FREE PANTRY: \$113.13

ROOF FUND: \$ 4,269

(MEMORIALS, NOISY OFFERING)

ROOF FUND TOTAL: \$7,103.75

JULY NOISY OFFERING WILL GO  
TO THE ROOF FUND.

### Twins Game—August 12th

See the bulletin board for  
details on the game and bus  
ride.

### Flowers for July

July 7: Sharon Dilling

July 14: Gene & Sharon

Weckwerth

July 21: Les/Lois Anderson

July 28: Jack/Donna Werner

(flowers are \$30 per Sunday)

## Unofficial Council Hi-Lites—June 18, 2024

- Call to order by President Beth Spande.
- Devotions by Pastor Mark Boorsma.
- Minutes from the May meeting and the June 4th Executive Committee Meeting were approved.
- Treasurers report was approved.

-Pastor's Report: Pastor Mark reported on the upcoming funeral for Marianne DePope and plans for the "Salem on the Road" services on July 7 and July 14th. Salem offering envelopes will come to Salem and loose offering will go to St. John's.

### Committee Reports:

- Building & Grounds: Paul Dilling reported no roof leaks.
- Worship & Music: Deb Stolarcek reported on the June 13th meeting.

### New Business:

- July Noisy Offering will be going to the Salem Roof Fund on motion by Kathy Paul, seconded by Paul Dilling. M/C
- Unlock scheduled passed around
- Replacement refrigerator to be paid in full using Thrivent Funds on motion by Paul Dilling, seconded by Deb Stolarcek. M/C

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting July 16th at 6:30 p.m.

### Generosity Matters

Often churches stress the importance of giving — for the support, fiscal health and well-being of the church. Maybe churches need to say more about the personal benefits of giving.

In a June 23 Minneapolis Star Tribune column entitled “Graduate, it’s time to plan your finances,” Chris Farrell advises new graduates:

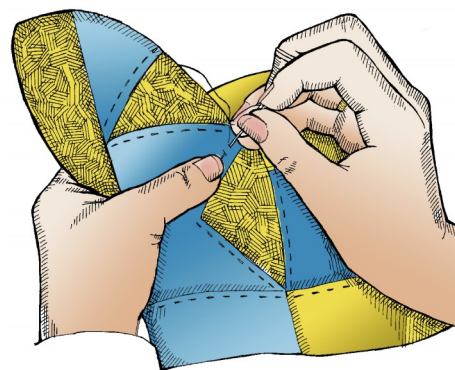
“Start the habit of giving money away. The thoughtfulness that comes from deciding where to give money creates strong connections to our community. The act of giving is a powerful reminder of what matters.”

It’s true that churches and other charities depend on your contributions. But you benefit, too, as your own thoughtfulness, connections, and impact grow through your giving. Teaching our children and grandchildren to give equips them for lives that matter.



### Sew 'n' Tell

July 9  
July 23



QUILTING GROUP

### Friday Morning Bible Study

July 5

July 12

July 19

July 26

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



## Synod Assembly

The SE Minnesota Synod Assembly was held in Mankato on May 11, 2024. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend the assembly for Salem Church. It was a wonderful experience and I would like to share with you the highlights of the meeting. Pastor Boorsma drove the Andersons representing Ascension Church and myself to Mankato. When we arrived in Mankato we had rolls and coffee before the meeting began. Bishop Regina Hassanally addressed the assembly. She shared interesting and exciting information with us.

- The SE Minnesota Synod is a community of 165 congregations. There were 351 people attending.

-This year, we had 150 newly ordained Pastors throughout the United States.

-We have 330 vacancies for first call Pastors nation wide. Looking ahead we will have more focus on lay leadership. We will give lay leaders what they need to be successful in their work. We will determine who are the lay leaders in our church. We will determine how we can invest in our lay leaders.

-High anxiety within the church leads to increased polarization.

We will adhere to the belief that the love of Christ knows no bounds. We will work through the church, the wisdom of God, in its rich variety may be made known. Creation is grooming for salvation.

How is the church connected to the people around us? We work at connecting because it proclaims the Gospel. We follow the path as it unfolds before us. This was an inspiring message delivered by our Bishop!

In the afternoon we received a message from Matt Bloom, a professor at Notre Dame. He works with people who are in the helping and healing professions. Well being in ordained or lay ministry is a spiritual thing. Small actions added over time become big changes in well being. We have good days and bad days. Stress accumulates in bad days. We should have 3 good days for every bad day.

Looking ahead—there will be a Church Wide Assembly in Arizona July 28-August 2, 2025. Elections were held. Mary Boorsma was elected as a female voting member. Pastor Mark Boorsma was elected as a Rostered Male voting member.

The Synod Assembly expresses the love and devotion of our wonderful church. Next year, if you are asked to go to the Synod Assembly, I encourage you to go. It is a deeply spiritual and inspiring experience.

Kathy Paul



July 1 Nate Dilling, Linda Meza

July 6 Clarence Ayers

July 12 Kyler Mangskau

July 18 Rylie Gillam

July 19 Kermit Iverson, Bev Neve

July 22 Judy Dilling, Jim Gulbrandson,  
Drake Sternhagen

July 23 Ruth Boelter

July 25 Colin Ulve

July 27 Lois Anderson, Tiffany Gillman,  
Michele Reim, Mary Stevens

July 28 Mike Luhning

July 31 Deb Pirsig

July 7: Craig & Mary Nelson 51 years

July 14: Les & Lois Anderson 67 years

July 21: Kurt & Terri Cheever 34 years

July 30: Seth & Diane Henry 8 years



**LET US PRAY...**

*Larry Enderson*

*Woody Hestness*

*Dean Beighley*

*Tom Eustis*

*Mary Paul*

*Kermit Iverson*

*Roger Holty*

*Terry Olson*

*Prayers for the family & friends of  
Marianne DePeppe.*

*Prayers for family & friends of  
Rita Chavez  
(Aunt of Cindy Wangen)*





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

"Change Service Requested"

## THE BUILDER JULY 2024

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

