

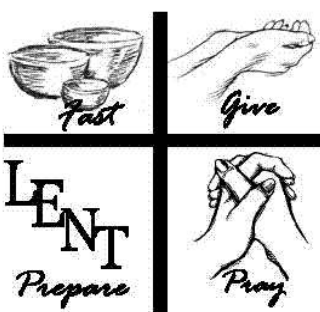
Salem Lutheran
Church and School

Jacksonville, IL 62650 | 217-243-3419
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March 2023
Newsletter

**INSIGHT FROM GOD’S WORD:
Temptation and Testing**

We are now entering the season of Lent. Lent is the church’s traditional time for preparing for the celebration of the Easter resurrection of Christ by focusing on resisting temptation and persevering through testing.



When we are suffering, when we are going through difficulty, when it seems like we can not march one more step, it is especially then that we are resisting temptation and persevering through testing. For temptation and testing are two sides of the same coin of suffering. Temptation comes from the

devil. His purpose is to destroy our faith, to draw us away from God through our suffering. Testing comes from God. His divine purpose is to strengthen and purify our faith, to draw us closer to Him, as we trust in His promises centered on the forgiveness of sins through His Son. So, we pray in this season of Lent that suffering might not come to us. But if it comes, we pray for strength and wisdom from God to resist the devil’s temptations. Even more we pray for steadfastness to persevere through our time of testing, so that the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament might draw us closer to Christ, our Savior. Pastor Brechbuhl

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – March 2023

Lenten Discipline: Denying the Self

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God’s grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus’ work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God’s Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn’t just remind us of the sufficiency of God’s spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption

and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body. This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation. Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body. Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying “no” to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you’ve learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You’ve learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way: But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10) Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season. – LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

**MARCH BAPTISM
ANNIVERSARIES**

MCCOMBS, Harrison	1-Mar
STEINACHER, Steven	1-Mar
SCHAEFER, Beth A.	2-Mar
EDDINGER, Kimberly	4-Mar
KLEINSCHMIDT, Daun	6-Mar
LOVEKAMP, Maci K.	6-Mar
KRAUSE, Michael A.	8-Mar
MASSEY, Nickole A.	8-Mar
ENGBRECHT, Carolyn	9-Mar
HADDEN, Lauren E.	10-Mar
TOMHAVE, Sherri S.	10-Mar
WINTERS, Emily	10-Mar

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL VOTERS' MEETING

RESULTS: The assembly was held on Sunday, February 19th. Salem issued a pastoral call to Rev. Nathan Janssen, the Pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Martinsville, IN. All paperwork has been sent and now we need to be praying, asking the Holy Spirit to give Rev. Janssen His wisdom as he prayerfully considers our call.

EASTER BREAKFAST: We are planning an Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 9th. If you would like to donate items such as sweets, milk, juice. Please have your donations in by noon on Saturday April 8th. Planning on having Biscuits and gravy, sausage and pancakes and other items to be determined. Thank you

EASTER FLOWERS: Easer flowers this year will be Lilies. We will need your order by March 27th and they will be coming from Barber the Florist and \$15.00 each. Please place your order in an envelope marked Easter Lily and enclose your payment. Thank you.

LENTEN SUPPERS: Following is the schedule for Lenten Suppers to be held at 5:30 pm before the Wednesday evening Lenten services.

March 1st - Property Committee: Spaghetti and Sauce and Dessert

March 8th - PTL: Tacos

March 15th - Day School: Ravoli, Salad, Bread Sticks and Dessert

March 22nd - Finance: Sloppy Joe, Chips & Dessert

March 29th - Ladies Guild: Cheesy Potato Soup, Vegetable Beef Soup, Ham & Bean Soup and dessert.

BIRTHDAY INVITATION: Larry and Retha Vincent will be celebrating their 80th birthdays in February and March. Their children will host an Open House for them at the Jacksonville Elks, 231 Morgan Street, Jacksonville, IL on Saturday, March 18th from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The congregation is invited to attend. Please NO GIFTS.

LADIES GUILD: The Ladies Guild will meet on Monday, March 20th @ 3:00 pm. Please plan on attending. Thank you

DOORBELL DINNERS SEARCH: Please consider volunteering some of your time to deliver Doorbell Dinners during the week of April 3rd through the 7th. Your help will be much appreciated. Please contact Rita Tendick (217)473-5017 if you can help those in need. Thank you.

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS: In the same assembly, a motion was made, seconded and passed to replace the rest of the windows in the Annex. The cost will be \$23,000. This really needs to be done as the windows there

DAVIS, Madison A.	12-Mar
ALEXANDER, Harrison	15-Mar
DICKMAN, Erna L.	15-Mar
SHIREMAN, Crystal R.	15-Mar
BUMGARNER, Megan	16-Mar
KLOPPE, Thomas A.	16-Mar
BRODT, Kenneth	17-Mar
BROWN, Doris J.	17-Mar
BROWN, Emily I.	17-Mar
BROWN, Sarah M.	17-Mar
BROWN, Steven A.	17-Mar
ROBERTS, Thomas E.	18-Mar
LASHMET, Craig B.	20-Mar
ZACHARY, MORGAN	20-Mar
COOLEY, William R.	21-Mar
OVERBY, Roberta A.	21-Mar
COX, Ruth L.	22-Mar
GILLIS, Alice M.	22-Mar
SPRADLIN, Robert A.	22-Mar
THIES, Michael E.	23-Mar
LUKEMAN, Shirley A.	26-Mar
OLIVER, James E.	26-Mar
WYATT, Linda E.	26-Mar
WIEGAND Jr., James	27-Mar
ARING, Linda K.	28-Mar
DELONG Sr., William	28-Mar
LITTIG, Pearl E.	29-Mar
SPRADLIN, Angela R.	29-Mar
WIEGAND, Jack A.	29-Mar
ZIMMER, Judith E.	29-Mar
RIVERS, Bonnie J.	30-Mar
ROBINSON, Isabella	31-Mar
ROBINSON, Sophia	31-Mar
SCHUMACHER, Arthur M.	31-Mar

UPCOMING SALEM WORSHIP START TIMES:

Mar 5th 9:00 am Pastor Brechbuhl

Mar 12th 8:30 am Pastor Strattman

Mar. 19th 9:00 am Pastor Brechbuhl

Mar. 26th 9:00 am Pastor Riemer

2023 MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE TIMES:

Mar. 1st 7:00 pm Pastor Brechbuhl

Mar. 8th 7:00 pm Pastor Keith Kettner, Beardstown

Mar. 15th 7:00 pm Pastor Strattman, Chapin

Mar. 22nd 7:00 pm Pastor Laux, Our Redeemer

Mar. 29th 7:00 pm Pastor Lesemann, Bath

have become quite rotten. We ask you to consider making a contribution to pay for these windows.

JAYDEN UPTON FUND: We have received word that there is way to donate to help assist with day to day expenses for Jayden Upton and his family. They can use gift cards, or donations. Shelley Hannant here in Jacksonville, is taking donations and seeing that the family gets them. If anyone would like to donate to Jayden's cause, gift cards or donations can be sent to Shelley Hannant at 863 W. Chambers Street Jacksonville, IL. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to her, 217-370-9768. Also, if you would like to send Jayden a card his address is: Jayden Upton %Jacey Upton, 929 Ryan Court, Iowa City, IA 52246. Thank you

SALEM'S 3RD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER: The bidding will start on April 5th. Bidding will end April 29th. In person event with the "Let's Make A Deal" gameshow will be April 29th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Changes this year, we will have some live auction items on April 29th and working on additional items. Donations for the auction will be excepted starting March 1st.

PIZZAS: The school is selling Pizza! The Lincoln Land Fundraising Pizza fundraiser runs until March 10th. They will be delivered sometime in the first 2 weeks of April. Find a student with an order form, there are order forms in the narthex or come to the office. Thank you for your participation. Thank you!

ADOPT A STUDENT: The Adopt A Student Fund is receiving requests for assistance from some of our students for the upcoming school year. We would like to assist these families, but we need the help from the Congregation. If you would you like to help, please mark your envelope "Family In Need". The money you donate, will go directly to this family's account. If you would like to sponsor a student for a month, 3 months, 6 months or a full year, please call the office. We would love to have such donors. Thank you.

RADIO OPENING: Salem Lutheran is in search of volunteers that would like to learn how to broadcast our services. If you would be interested in the opportunity to do that or would just like to see if you would enjoy doing this, please see Kevin Eckhoff. He would be willing to let you sit in and check it out. Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated. An opportunity to learn something new and help Salem out. Thank you

DEACONS: Listed below are the names of the Deacons for Salem Lutheran 2022. Please feel free to give your Deacon a call.

- Group 1: "AA-GARM" Wade Mathis 217-690-2693
- Group 2: "GARR-MAN" Austin Tomhave 217-883-3461
- Group 3: "MASS-SHE"

Group 4: "SHIR-ZIM" Dwayne Middendorf 217-248-2091
Two Elders assisting Deacons:
Larry Baker (217)370-1480, Gerald Warcup (217)243-2620



PACK THE HOUSE: It's back! Come socialize with the Salem Lutheran family at Leo's Pizza every 3rd Thursday of the month! March 16th. Dine-In or Carry out. Mention this event and Salem receives 15% of all sales for the night

R FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP WORK PROGRAM	
Fiscal Year 8/31/2022 - 07/31/2023	
(from 8/31/2022 Treasurer's Report)	
CURRENT FINANCIAL INDEBTEDNESS	
7/31/20	12/31/22
Farmers State Bank Line of Credit	
\$122,900.20	\$0.00
Internal Loan from Restricted	
\$63,725.00	\$0.00
	LEAP
\$828,100.60	\$664,857.82
Financial Status Report for December 2022	
Our total operating needs monthly:	\$ 51,874.82
Our operating receipts December, 2022:	\$ 92,107.88
Our total operating needs YTD:	\$259,374.12
Our total operating receipts YTD:	\$296,452.72
Our Shortfall or Excess YTD:	\$ 32,102.06

SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming School Events:

Mark your calendars now!

March 10- End of Third quarter

Pizza fundraiser forms are due

March 16- Pack the House at Leo's Pizza

March 17- No School- Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 27-31- No School- Spring Break

April 2- Students sing in church 8:45 am arrival



Instead of taking birthday presents at her birthday party this year, 3rd grader Sarah Beth asked for donations to the Swaddling Clothes Ministry. Here she is with Deaconess Strubbe who runs Swaddling clothes and all the donation she was able to collect.



Enrollment for the coming year is now open to the community. If you have not returned your enrollment for next year do it today!



Save the Date! Our students have been asked to help with the Palm Sunday Service on April 2. This is the last day of Spring Break before students return on April 3. Students will be processing in with Palm branches and singing to start the service. I know that there may be some conflicts with this day, so please advise your teacher now if this is a problem for your family.



We are excited to already have children signing up for summer camp! If you need a payment plan in order to sign up early, please let the office know. The sooner we know how many children to expect the better! Tell your friends too!

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL JOY REITSMA: We have had another full and busy month with happy students and staff. We hosted an open house to share our school with the community. Thanks to our Facebook ads, word of mouth, and fence signs we shared our school with several

families all the way from 2K to 8 th grade! Open enrollment began on the 16 th and we already received applications for new students! Auction projects are underway as well. Summer camp registration is open and we already have students signed up to spend their summer with us! THANK YOU for supporting our super bowl fundraiser! We raised close to \$600 in support of our new 2K program opening next fall. It was great to see all our church and school families spending time together at Leo's Pizza for Pack the House. Your continued support is appreciated. We also saw the return of sports here on campus. Our 1 st -4 th graders have formed a basketball team and have been playing the other local Christian schools and have been doing quite well. Thank you, Coach Ben Petri, for leading the troops! We also have 5 th -6 th grade girls' volleyball from Washington using our gym and our 6 th - girls are on the team as well. We are thankful for all the donations to the Principal's and Adopt A Student funds that help us help our families who have trouble with tuition. They are ever so thankful for the support. Want to be a part of Salem's growth? Do YOU know of a family that would be a great fit for our school? Do YOU know someone who would be a great fit for our staff? We are now accepting new students and interviews are underway to fill our teaching staff. Please share this information with those whom you think would be a great addition to our Salem family!



PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN News from Mrs.

Lysaythong & Mrs. Wiegand: The students are learning that Jesus doesn't just love a few people but all people all around the world whether they believe in him or not. John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Preschool 3 continues to review the letters in the alphabet one letter each week, numbers 0-10, and currently working towards writing their first names. For science they learned about the artic animals, how they survive the harsh weather, find food and shelter. As an extension to their focused theme learning the students participated in snowball fights (with soft snowballs), tug-a-wars, and kicking/throwing/catching a ball to increase their gross motor developments. In the Preschool 4/Kindergarten class the students reviewed their uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers/shapes, nursery rhymes, and opposites. For science the students participated in a float or sink, balancing, and magnetic energy experiments. In the academia component the Preschool 4 students continue to perfect writing their first and last names and numbers 0-20, while the Kindergarteners work on mastering their reading skills and numbers 0-30. Both of the classes celebrated Valentine's Day together by passing out cards to their classmates and teachers. They all had an amazing time together!



1st & 2ND GRADE NEWS from Mrs. Deborah

Steinacher: We had a wonderful January! It was filled with lots of exciting things to do. The class really enjoyed celebrating our school during Lutheran School's Week. We got to "travel" to several places at the beginning of the week. Our class taught the other classes about Japan. We learned about their flag, their traditional clothes, their money, origami, and we even got to try several Japanese foods. We really enjoyed all of our church families that came to school on Wednesday and played

with us in the gym! Thank you so much for spending the morning with us. On Friday our class took a field trip to the Jacksonville Food Center. The class got to learn about the importance of a food bank and how it works. They helped by packaging bar soap and toilet paper so that it was ready to be handed out. They really enjoyed being part of the mission for the morning of the food bank. Then we ended the month by celebrating 100 Day. This is quite a milestone for us. We did several activities surrounding the theme of one hundred. We made a bulletin board of 100 hearts of God's blessings. They were eager to come up with a list of all the things they were thankful for. Jesus, our church, our school, family, friends, praying at school every day, and singing Jesus songs were just a few of the things that they were thankful for. We also make a poster of 100 hands reminding us to serve the Lord through love. Some of the other things they did was to weigh 100 things, read stories about 100 Day, make a 100 Day pattern, and share their 100 Day show and tell. Thank you so much for all of your prayers and support. God's blessings!

3rd, 4th & 5th GRADE NEWS from Mrs. Blayre Petri:

In third and fourth grade we have art every Friday. I have a volunteer parent that comes in and shares her gift of doing and teaching art with the students. Not only does she share her gift of art but she often uses scripture along with her art. We are so lucky to have great volunteers like her that help teach our students in a way that always incorporates the importance of Christ in our life! God Bless, Mrs. Petri