

Salem Lutheran  
Church and School

Jacksonville, IL 62650 | 217-243-3419  
salemjax.net | salemjaxschool.net

## October 2023 Newsletter

### Insight from God's Word: "How One Is Justified Before God, and of Good Works" (Smalcald Articles Article 13.1-2)

In 1537, towards the end of his life and ministry, Dr. Martin Luther, the founder of Lutheranism, wrote this confession of faith about the teaching of justification by grace through faith in Jesus, which continues to be ours today:

*"What I have hitherto and constantly taught concerning this I know not how to change in the least, namely, that by faith, as St. Peter says, we acquire a new and clean heart, and God will and does account us entirely righteous and holy for the sake of Christ, our Mediator. And although sin in the flesh has not yet been altogether removed or become dead, yet He will not punish or remember it. And such faith, renewal, and forgiveness of sins is followed by good works. And what there is still sinful or imperfect also in them shall not be accounted as sin or defect,...for Christ's sake; but the entire man, both as to his person and his works, is to be called and to be righteous and holy from pure grace and mercy, shed upon us...and spread over us in Christ."*

These words, summarizing the teaching of the Bible, are the center of the gospel, namely that on account of Jesus Christ God graciously does two things with regard to the believer in Christ:

1. **First**, He justifies the believer, which means that on account of Christ's perfect life, suffering, death, and resurrection He considers and declares the believer in Christ to be perfectly righteous, that is, sinless and forgiven of all her sins.
2. **Then**, He sanctifies the believer, which means that He empowers him to do good works and struggle against the sin in his life.

May God by His grace in Christ empowers us, as those who are justified, to daily live sanctified, faithful and sacrificial lives. Pastor Brechbuhl

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

It's in the Way that You Use It Consider the humble baseball bat. It is a simple tool designed for a complex task. The batter needs a tool that can consistently deliver force to a small ball which may be thrown at over 100 miles per hour, but which might also come slanting across the plate as a slow curve. For a game like this, the founders of baseball had to redesign the old cricket bat, which is more of a flat paddle. The tool had to fit the job. But even a specially designed tool can be used for a different purpose. It turns out that some years ago in England, the home of cricket, baseball bats suddenly started selling like hotcakes. What were folks across the pond doing with all those baseball bats? Using them as clubs in riots! A tool can be used, and it can be misused. It's all in the way that you use it. The same is true with the things of God. The Second Commandment states that we should "not misuse the name of the Lord." In the Small Catechism, Luther goes on to tell us exactly what this misuse is, as well as the proper use: "We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks." (SC I) The Lord has given us His name: He has placed it upon us in Holy Baptism and He has invited us to pray to Him as our Father. In this sense, the Lord's name is something for us to use. We should not misuse it ... and we should not fail to use it. The Pharisees of old were so afraid of misusing the name of God that they decided to simply never say the name of God (YHWH, Jehovah) at all! This non-use is just as bad as misuse. The Lord gives His gifts for our use. A Christian steward is one who is called to use all of God's gifts for His purposes. This includes things like the Name of God, the Sacraments, and the Word, and it also includes things like our family and friends, our talents and skills, our money and resources. Everything that God has given to you, He has given to you so that you may be blessed to use it for His

kingdom. It's all in the way that you use it! —  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)

## OCTOBER BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

GAIN, Bonnie V.	1-Oct
PRICE, ANDREA L.	1-Oct
SCHAEFER, Reimi	2-Oct
WILSON, Megan K.	3-Oct
HANNEL, Matthew A.	4-Oct
PICKENS, Retta J.	4-Oct
LAWSON, Mary A.	5-Oct
KRICK, Brian D.	6-Oct
GARMAN, Alicia A.	7-Oct
CROW, LACY KAY	9-Oct
BRUNE, Debra E.	10-Oct
BRUNE, Kylie M.	10-Oct
BRUNE, Sarah N.	10-Oct
FREED, Landon A.	10-Oct
GEERS, Andrea N.	10-Oct
HANNEL, David B.	10-Oct
THIES, Linda J.	10-Oct
BAKER, Alan D.	11-Oct
AUSTIN, Vickie M.	13-Oct
CARLS, Trenton J.	13-Oct
CAMPBELL, Whitney L.	15-Oct
EVANS, Patrick M.	15-Oct
MORRIS, Robert A. (Bob)	15-Oct
WELLENKAMP, Lucas A. (Luke)	15-Oct
NAGY, MARILYN	16-Oct
RIEMER, Judith A. (Judy)	16-Oct
SIEVING, Ashley J.	16-Oct
STURGEON, Matthew E.	16-Oct
FARMER, James	17-Oct
KRAUSE, Mary L.	18-Oct
PETERSON, Ryder K.	18-Oct
HOOD, Liam C. (Liam)	19-Oct
BARTLOW, Kelsey A.	20-Oct
PRATT, Logan W.	20-Oct
Shaughnessy, Evan J.	20-Oct
ENGEBRECHT, Kara L.	21-Oct
LOWERY, Justin E.	22-Oct
SMITH, Bretta A.	22-Oct
SCOBIE, John A. (Alex)	23-Oct
SHIREMAN, Abigail S.	23-Oct
CHUMLEY, Ella G.	24-Oct
KING, Barbara A.	24-Oct
STRUBBE, Sabre M.	25-Oct
WARCUP, Karl W.	25-Oct

SCHUMACHER, Sara E.	26-Oct
WHEELER, Brittany L.	28-Oct
WILSON, Joshua A.	28-Oct
BEZLER, Anna G.	29-Oct
BEZLER, Emilie R.	29-Oct
FAIRFIELD, Katelyn E.	29-Oct
GREGORY, Clay	29-Oct
DAY, Elizabeth M.	30-Oct
ENGEBRECHT, Bruce A.	30-Oct
TOMHAVE, Lance W.	30-Oct
MICHAEL Sr., Robert K.	31-Oct

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### PREACHING SCHEDULE PASTORS

NOTE: ALL START TIMES ARE AT 9 AM

Oct 1	9 am	Riemer
Oct 8	9 am	Brechbuhl
Oct 15	9 am	Strattman
Oct 22	9 am	Phillips

**REMINDERS:** DON'T ASSUME that Pastor knows when you are hospitalized. Please call the Church Office 243-3419 to let us know when you enter the hospital.

**LWML SUNDAY:** LWML Sunday is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ladies, please bring your Mite Boxes then.

**DOORBELL DINNERS:** Thanks to the following Salem members and Jr. High Salem students who helped in any way to get the Doorbell Dinners out and delivered during the week of September 4-8. Dan and Karen Engebrecht, Elaine Jarman, Randy and Mary Anne Lawson, Darin Gehrke, Danny Magelitz, Jo Anne Campbell, Ruth Werries, Linda Strubbe, Alisia Antemate, Phoenix Dertz, Sophia Robinson, and Alex Baker. If you see any of these volunteers around give them a pat on the back. They represented all of Salem Church and School. If you want to help, our next assigned week is December 4-8. Call Rita Tendick at 217-473-5017.

**NEW BABY:** Brandon and Ally Steinacher became parents of a new baby boy, Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville. Owen Lee Steinacher weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. Grandparents are: Heather and Bill Crone and Steve and Deborah Steinacher. May the Lord bless the new baby and family.

**FISH & CHICKEN FRY:** The Bethlehem Lutheran

Church at 120 W. Monroe St., Petersburg, IL is having a Fish & Chicken Fry on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 4 pm to 7 pm. Half of the proceeds will be donated to Salem Lutheran Swaddling Clothes and the other half will go to the Jacksonville Food Pantry. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Strubbe. 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.

**ZONE #7 Lutheran Laymen's League:** Will host an Oktoberfest on October 7<sup>th</sup>. We will serve brats, German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, Red Cabbage, Homemade Root Beer, Iced Tea, Lemonade, pie and cake. Please plan to attend Trinity Lutheran Church in Arenzville from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Help us support our Radio Broadcasts. Thank you.

**2023 Illinois Valley Lutherans for Life Annual Nut Sale:** Nationally, Lutheran's for Life is celebrating 45 years as an organization! Our local Illinois Valley Lutherans for Life will be having their annual nut sale from September 10<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup> this year. If you value life and wish to support our mission, please help by ordering some pecans and/or other nuts from Lutherans for Life. Order forms will be available soon. If you wish to order any nuts, please fill out a form along with your payment and give it to one of the Lutherans for Life volunteers—Ruth Werries, Karen Engebrecht, Karen Tomhave, or you may leave it in the office. Illinois Valley Lutherans for Life appreciates all the support you have given them in the past. Nut sale proceeds are used to help support the Pregnancy Resource Centers in Jacksonville and Rushville, to provide funding for Students for Life events and to support our national LFL office. The funds are used to provide age-appropriate books and educational materials for our Lutheran School. "Thanks for supporting Life"! Life is precious!

**FRIENDSHIP BIBLE DATES:** The following dates have been scheduled for Friendship Bible, they are held on Mondays at 6:30 pm here at Salem. September 25<sup>th</sup>; October 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>; November 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>; December 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars.

**COMMITTEES:** We are looking for individuals to be on

our committees. We have several committees that are in need of adding to the committee. If you would like to join a committee, please talk with David Hannel. He will provide you with the available committees and what openings Salem has. Please be a part of the solution at Salem. 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.

### **Fall 2023 Volleyball Schedule**

September 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	Away	Westfair Christian
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Away	Trinity Springfield
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	Home	Westfair Christian
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Away	Beardstown Christian
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Away	Trinity Arenzville
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Home	Our Saviors, Springfield
October 19 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Home	Beardstown Christian
October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	6:00 pm	Home	Trinity Springfield
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Home	Trinity Arenzville

**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 these 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.

### **Jacksonville Circuit Reformation Service and Fellowship**

- Please join us on Tuesday, October 31, at 7 pm, at Trinity Lutheran Church of Bluffs for our circuit Reformation Service and Soup and Sandwich Meal. The meal will begin at 6:15 followed by Divine Service with guest preacher District President Michael Mohr. There will also be a circuit choir and brass accompanying the hymns. Those wishing to participate in the choir or wanting more information please call or text Pastor Lesemann at (309) 256-6514. (Please note: Trinity's basement where the meal will be served is not handicap accessible, but arrangements can be made for those wishing to partake in the meal.) For those using Google to assist them in finding Trinity the address is: 1585 Trinity Rd, Bluffs, IL, 62621. Trinity is located at the corner of Neeleyville and Trinity roads, about halfway between Chapin and

Bluffs. Also, this announcement: Circuit Reformation Service (Update) – For those interested in participating in the circuit choir at the Oct. 31, Reformation Service there will be a practice on Monday, Oct. 30, 7 pm at Our Redeemer of Jacksonville. Brass choir practice will begin at 6 pm. If you are interested in learning more or in receiving links to preview music, please text or email Pastor Lesemann at (309) 256-6514 or [banblesemann@juno.com](mailto:banblesemann@juno.com). Sincerely, Pastor Brian Leseman – Jacksonville Circuit Visitor

**GERMAN MEAL** – Monday, Oct. 9, 4:30-7 at St. John's Lutheran of rural Bath. This meal will help support mission work among the deaf in the Central Illinois District and at Christ for the Deaf Lutheran church in Jacksonville. The menu will include Schnitzel, Spaetzle, Bratwurst, German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut and Root Beer. For those coming from out of town the "google" address is (13961 E CR 1100N, Bath, IL 62617). Sincerely, Pastor Brian Lesemann St. John's and Salem Lutheran Churches

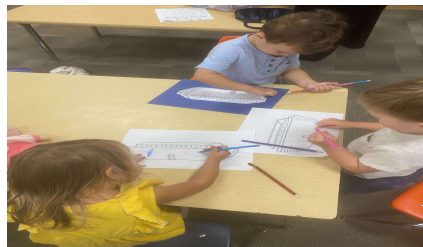
## SCHOOL NEWS

### NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL JOY REITSMA:



What do we teach the children here at Salem Lutheran Church and School? We teach the WHOLE child- their spirit: seeing a need and filling it as in this first picture where a middle school student was caught helping a preschool student of their own free will, their mind: as in the second picture where the 4K class learned about dinosaurs and made their own fossil, and their body: as seen in a good old-fashioned game of dodge ball in PE class. Every time you give of your time, money or talents to help our school, these are the things that YOU help produce. God has blessed us richly here at Salem. Let's see what we can do to raise up the next generation to be shining examples of God's light.

**PRESCHOOL: Pre-K2 News from Ms. Hathaway and Ms. Sharrow:** Students are learning about pets/animals. We are learning about how many different kind of pets people can have! We are learning about the story of Noah's Ark, students got to make their own Ark and pick what



animals they wanted to put on it. We are learning the song "Jesus loves me." The students are having so much fun learning! With Love, Ms. Sharrow, Ms. Hathaway



### **PRESCHOOL Pre-K3 News from Mrs. Blayre Petri:**

As the weather is starting to cool off, the kids are starting to get in their daily school routine. We have been working hard on practicing "Jesus Loves Me" for the October 1st church service. Our preschool theme for this month is Pets/Animals which is a perfect theme to discuss our biblical story for the month,

Noah's Ark. This is a class favorite, and it is fun to see the kids really enjoy learning about God and the stories of the bible! God Bless, Mrs. Petri



### **PRESCHOOL News from Mrs. Lysaythong:**

Our classrooms will be learning new daily prayers and talking about the story of Noah's Ark this month! The bible tells us in 1 John 4:8 "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

The students are learning about their favorite pets/animals, the story of Noah the Ark, and exploring God's promise to never flood the Earth again. They are currently practicing their Jesus song in preparation to sing for the congregation and their parents towards the end of the month. Early in the month the students pretended with stuff animals, learned about the letter P, and had a picnic outside with their friends! In His Service, Mrs. Lysaythong

### **Kindergarten News from Mrs. Audrey Sprinkel:**

God is good! Our kindergarteners just wrapped up lessons on family and friendship! We talked about being bucket fillers and were able to fill our very own Ms. Reitsma's bucket! This month in reading we are learning all about animals and their movements! Students are learning to research animals so they can create their very own poster to present to the class! We are taking a trip to the Henson Robinson Zoo this month with the Pre-K classes where students will get to learn more about animals, their habitats, how they move, and more! In math, students are

learning about AB patterns, how to make AB patterns with their voices and bodies, how to sort different objects, ordinal numbers, and identifying missing numbers! We are talking about our bodies, our five senses, and healthy habits in science! Students have loved experimenting with their senses, and have been identifying sweet, salty, sour, and bitter foods, as well as identifying objects by using touch only! In social studies we are talking about our country, its symbols, and healthy communities and the people that make up those communities. We have been reading the story of Abraham and Sarah, and learning about how God loves us and keeps His promises. Students have gotten to participate in various games and activities to learn more about God's love and His promises! Students have gotten to enjoy learning about oil pastels, cubism, and participating in creating a crazy hair self-portrait!. We have so many exciting things planned for this month, and I can't wait to share them with you! God Bless!

### **1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd Grade News from Mrs. Deborah**

**Steinacher:** We have been learning so much and in so many ways! The class loves to buddy read with a partner, paint artwork for the hallway, write stories on the iPads, and do classroom activities. In science we have been learning about how plants grow. This is a great opportunity to think once again about how God created the earth and everything in it. So in September we had our first field trip. We went to Pumpkin Creek Farms. The class took a tour of the farm and learned how God makes pumpkins grow. After a picnic lunch, they got to go through a corn maze, climb on hay bales, play on a spider web, have duck races, pet the animals, and much more. Before they came home, they were able to pick out a pumpkin to take home. A fantastic time was had by everyone. Thank you for your support. Learning in a variety of ways in a wonderful way to learn. God's blessings to everyone.

### **3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News from Mrs. Jacqueline**

**Steinacher:** Grades 3-5 have been having a fabulous year so far! It is amazing how much the students have grown in such a short amount of time. We start our mornings with writing in our journals, where the students can express themselves creatively. I love to read the work they create! In Science, we have been discussing the wonderful universe that God has created for us. The students are amazed at how expansive the universe really is. Our Social Studies discussions have covered the regions of the United States and communities. The students enjoy learning about the different parts of our country, and how blessed we are to live here. The students have excellent discussions in Religion, and work hard to memorize their Bible verses. In Math, they have worked with a variety of concepts; using things like paper money and geometric shapes to comprehend difficult concepts. In Language Arts, the students continue to practice reading and writing skills to aid their comprehension. I can already see their growth in this area in such a short amount of time. As I watch my students progress, I am so thankful for the opportunity to work at Salem, where I can foster both their academic and spiritual growth. God's Blessings, Mrs. Jackie Steinacher.

**6th & 8th Grade News from Ms. Joy Reitsma:** Middle school has been very busy this year. Not only have they been volunteering at the Food Center and Doorbell Dinners, but also on the academic front. They are learning about the human body systems. They dissected a chicken wing in order to learn more about the skeletal and muscle systems. They went to the Illinois State Museum to connect learning about early history to the progression of Illinois' history throughout the years. They compared the world view to the Biblical view of historical events and timelines. They are also learning the accompaniment on Orff instruments to play with the preschool in church on October 1<sup>st</sup>. We hope to see everyone there to hear our littlest cyclones share about the love of Christ.

### **OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP WORK PROGRAM**

**Fiscal Year 8/31/2022 – 07/31/2023**

(From 8/31/2022 Treasurer's Report)

#### **CURRENT FINANCIAL INDEBTEDNESS**

<b>7/31/22</b>	<b>7/31/23</b>
Farmers State Bank Line of Credit	
\$122,900.20	\$0.00
Internal Loan from Restricted	
\$63,725.00	\$0.00
	LEAP
\$677,802.80	\$621,483.94

#### **Financial Status Report for APRIL 2023**

Our total operating needs monthly:	\$ 51,874.82
Our operating receipts June 2023:	\$ 57,551.46
Our total operating needs YTD:	\$620,476.48
Our total operating receipts YTD:	\$639,775.43
Our Shortfall or Excess YTD:	\$ 19,298.97