

**Salem Lutheran
Church and School**

Jacksonville, IL 62650 | 217-243-3419
saalemjax.net | saalemjaxschool.net

November 2023 Newsletter

Insight from God's Word: God Still Wants Us!



A classified newspaper ad said, "Lost—one dog. Brown hair with several mangy spots. Right leg broken due to automobile accident. Rear left hip hurt. Right eye missing. Left ear bitten off in dog fight. Answers to name 'Lucky.' Will pay for his return to me—no questions asked!"

Lucky? Of course! That was one blessed dog! With all those things wrong with him, somebody still wanted him and was willing to pay to get him back!

Isn't that the gospel of Jesus Christ? With all of our sins and rebellion, with everything so wrong with the human race, God loved all of us so much that He gave up His only Son as the final sacrifice and solution for all our sin, all our wrongness, all our problems!

That was the point of the Lutheran Reformation almost five hundred years ago! The Church in the Middle Ages had mostly forgotten this gospel. The Church was wrongly teaching the people to trust in the good they did and who they were. They were even encouraged to pay the Church money for the forgiveness of their sins!

But God raised up Martin Luther, taught him what the Word of God really said, and empowered Luther to boldly and bravely preach and teach the gospel from the Bible. The great gospel of the Reformation was and is, "By Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in Christ Alone You Are Forgiveness!" And loved and wanted by God. Pastor Brechbuhl

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – November 2022

What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). God loves a cheerful giver. But who is a cheerful giver? Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith,

David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people. What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave. So also, our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure. So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It's the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things. – LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



NOVEMBER BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

LAKAMP, Jason B.	1-Nov
WARCUP, Monika C.	1-Nov
BECKWITH, Brevyn A.	2-Nov
BOWMAN, Seth N.	2-Nov
HADDEN, Paige O.	2-Nov
MEAD, Bryson J.	2-Nov
SMITH, Amy E.	2-Nov
GEHRKE, Quinton T.	3-Nov
HART, Elizabeth G.	3-Nov
POCKLINGTON, Izabel A.	3-Nov
ROBINSON Jr., David E.	3-Nov
ROEGGE, Bruce A.	3-Nov
BERGSCHNEIDER, Sarah K.	4-Nov
KUNZEMAN, Brandon D.	5-Nov
MOODY, Donna J.	5-Nov
WITHEE, Breckin T.	7-Nov
WITHEE, Sophia J.	7-Nov
DAVIDSMEYER, Ryan W.	8-Nov
MOELLER, Max A.	8-Nov
RUNYON, Damon L.	8-Nov
TROWBRIDGE, Craig E.	9-Nov
WINKELMAN, Phillip J.	9-Nov
CROW, Kyle A.	10-Nov
STRUBBE, Chad E.	10-Nov
GOODING, Cheznie	11-Nov
TURNER, Dallas J.	11-Nov
TURNER, Dawson A.	11-Nov

MEFFORD, Jaime L.	12-Nov
REHG, Lester E.	12-Nov
MEFFORD, Brody M.	13-Nov
NIX, Josie M.	13-Nov
TOMHAVE, Gracie	13-Nov
LAKAMP, Austyn E.	14-Nov
MAGELITZ, Rachel F.	14-Nov
PRATT, GAIGE	14-Nov
RIVERS, Kelly L.	14-Nov
SALCIDO, John M.	14-Nov
VALENTINE, Stacy M.	14-Nov
FAIRFIELD, Sue E.	15-Nov
MIDDENDORF, Dwayne D.	16-Nov
SALCIDO, David A.	16-Nov
VINCENT, Retha M.	17-Nov
WATKINS, Jack S.	17-Nov
HAVENS, Abigail L.	18-Nov
MULLENS, PATRICIA	18-Nov
WATKINS, Kelsey M.	18-Nov
HYMES, Darryl D.	19-Nov
STURGEON, Charlotte V.	19-Nov
VINYARD, Emily A.	19-Nov
JARMAN, Sarah B.	20-Nov
PHEBUS, Laurie A.	20-Nov
REDD, Alyssa	20-Nov
DOYLE, Jason C.	21-Nov
MORTHOLE, Layken M.	21-Nov
NEWINGHAM, Linda S.	21-Nov
SHIREMAN, Charles H.	21-Nov
WINKELMAN, John C.	21-Nov
MOORE, Hailey D.	22-Nov
NORTHROP, Michael T.	22-Nov
GAIGE, Carson L.	25-Nov
LEUTZ, Jonathan M.	25-Nov
ALEXANDER, Myles B.	26-Nov
HACKER, Corey M.	26-Nov
WALLACE, Eric W.	26-Nov
DAVIDSMEYER, Michael P.	27-Nov
MATHIS, Vera R.	27-Nov
TENDICK, Randall	27-Nov
EVANS, Brenden T.	29-Nov
EVANS, Madaline M.	29-Nov
ROBINSON Jr., Edgar E.	29-Nov
MORROW, Macyn E.	30-Nov
MORROW, William D.	30-Nov

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PREACHING SCHEDULE PASTORS

NOTE: ALL START TIMES ARE AT 9 AM

Nov 5	9 am	
Nov 12	9 am	Theilen
Nov 19	9 am	Brechbuhl
Nov 22	6 pm	Brecchbuhl
Nov 26	9 am	Strattman

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.

IN SYMPATHY: BARBARA L. DUDLEY PASSED AWAY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH AT WILLOW ROSE REHAB AND HEALTH CARE IN JERSEYVILLE. BARBARA IS SURVIVED BY FOUR CHILDREN, JIM BOEHS OF WEST COVINA, CA, KEN(MARILYN) BOEHS AND ELAINE (DENNIS) JARMAN, BOTH OF JACKSONVILLE AND ANNA (DAN) HOGAN OF WENTZVILLE, MO; SIX GRANDCHILDREN, FOURTEEN GREAT GRANDCHILDREN; ONE GREAT-GREAT GRANDSON, WHO WAS BORN SEPT. 14 OF THIS YEAR; HER TWIN SISTER, ELIZABETH AGASSI (DECEASED HUSBAND MIKE) OF LA VEGAS NV; AND NUMEROUS NIECES AND NEPHEWS. SHE WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HER PARENTS AND ONE SISTER, SHIRLEY SWETT AND HER HUSBAND DON. A PRIVATE CELEBRATION OF LIFE WILL BE HELD AT A LATER DATE. MAY THE LORD BLESS THE ONE WHO MOURN THE LOSS OF THIS LOVED ONE!

IN SYMPATHY: MARTHA TIPPEN PASSED AWAY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD AT THE GROVE IN JACKSONVILLE. MARTHA IS SURVIVED BY A NIECE, HEATHER (CRAIG) SMITH AND TWO GREAT NEPHEWS, CHASE AND CHRISTIAN SMITH. SHE WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HER PARENTS AND ONE SISTER, PEGGY BAPTIST. FUNERAL WAS HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH HERE AT SALEM. MAY THE LORD BLESS THE ONES WHO MOURN THE LOSS OF THIS LOVED ONE!

IN SYMPATHY: PHILLIP ALAN LOVEKAMP PASSED AWAY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE OF 50 YEARS, TWO CHILDREN, FOUR GRANDCHILDREN AND HIS SISTER (ROSEMARY VORTMAN). A PRIVATE FAMILY SERVICE WILL BE HELD. MAY THE LORD BLESS THE ONE WHO MOURN THE LOSS OF THIS LOVED ONE!

IN SYMPATHY: David Wayne Sculley passed away Friday, October 13th. David is survived by his father; Charles Sculley, daughter Karen (Les Jumper) Michael of Carlisle, PA; nephew Chuck (Jenna) Moore, two grandchildren, Nicole (Marc) Snyder of Dillsburg, PA and Brandon (Emily) Michael of Dillsburg, PA; two great-grandchildren, Natalie Snyder and Declan Michael; two sisters, Charleen (Cathy Heneghan)

Sculley of Lebanon TN and Laurie (Jaye) Surratt of Jacksonville. He is survived by many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother; Shirley Sculley, wife Barbara. Celebration of life was held on Monday, October 16th at Salem Lutheran Church. May the Lord Bless all who mourn this Loved One!

IN SYMPATHY: Marlene Mae "Pete" Osborne passed away on Thursday, October 5th. Marlene is survived by one daughter, Sandra Sue of Port Carbon, PA; two sons Dale Wayne (Patty) Osborne of Jacksonville, and Bobby Joe (Brenda)Osborne of Lees Summit, MO; three grandchildren, Jessica Marie Stambaugh, Elizabeth Fay Davison, and Natalie Renee Osborne; several step grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren; and three brothers, Donald (Marie) Dennis of Springfield, Damon (Gail) Dennis of Springfield, and Terry Dennis of Jacksonville. Marlene was preceded in death by one sister, Rosalie McKinley. Marlene had a 30+ year career as a cook at Salem Lutheran School. A memorial service was held on Thursday, October 12th at Williamson Funeral Home with burial at Murrayville Cemetery. May the Lord bless all those who mourn the loss of this Loved One!

THANK YOU: We would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for all the prayers, calls, and acts of kindness shown to us during the sickness and death of my brother, Phillip Lovekamp. We appreciate them all. Rosemary Vortman and the Lovekamp family.

"LLL Oktoberfest" – Thank you to all who helped and supported the "LLL Oktoberfest" this past Saturday, October 7, 2023. The "Oktoberfest" is one of the fundraisers to help fund our radio broadcasts – The "Lutheran Hour" and "By The Way." We also purchase tracts and things for the booths at local town festivals and the Morgan County Fair. We usually give away quite a few pens, bookmarks and Tracts to people that are there. We offer the Word which the Holy Spirit can work faith to many who do not know Jesus. Again, thank you. Zone #7 Lutheran Laymen's League

Salem Lutheran Church – Finance: A friend once told me, "You can't grow unless you get out of your comfort zone". We stepped out of our comfort zone when the Congregational Voters passed the deficient budget over \$100,000. At the same time the school nearly doubled enrollment from last year. Last Sunday we had 180 in attendance. There are beautiful facilities that many Churches would like to have. God has blessed us so much. Each Sunday we give the greatest gift that anyone could give through the Pastor – The forgiveness of our sins. Without the atonement of Jesus sacrificing

His life for us on the cross. No one could be saved. So, let's take this challenge with God leading us and overcome this budget challenge and grow as well. Please keep Praying and God will bless us.

GREETERS WANTED: The Evangelism committee is looking for volunteers to be Greeters at the Sunday morning Worship Service. You will need to be here by 8:30 am. If you would be interested, please contact Paul Reither, (217)-248-0550 Thank you.

DOORBELL DINNER VOLUNTEERS: Doorbell Dinner volunteers are needed for the week of December 4-8. Consider helping out those who need us in the Jacksonville community. It doesn't take much time out of your day. Drivers and deliverers need to be at Jacksonville Memorial Hospital at 11:10 AM for pick up and are usually finished by 12:45 PM. Please contact Rita Tendick at 217-473-5017 if you are willing to help.

COOKIE WALK: Looking ahead! Planning for the holidays! It's not too early to start thinking about holiday baking. The Salem Ladies Guild will be hosting their annual Cookie Walk on Friday, December 1 from 3 to 5 PM. We need your help, so get ready to think about baking your favorite treats. Proceeds from this event will be divided between: Salem's Swaddling Clothes Program, Salem School's Adopt-A-Student Program, Jacksonville Food Pantry, and the Orphan Grain Train. Please call Elaine Jarman at 217-473-1503 if you have any questions.

LADIES GUILD: There will be a Ladies Guild meeting on Monday, November 13th at 3:00 pm

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.

FRIENDSHIP BIBLE DATES: The following dates have been scheduled for Friendship Bible, they are held on Mondays at 6:00 pm here at Salem. November 6th, 20th; December 4th, 18th. 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.

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.

SCHOOL NEWS

NEWS FROM PRINCIPAL JOY REITSMA: It is hard to believe that the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year is already behind us! It seems like we just started the year! We have packed in quite a bit of learning and fun. Field trips to the Springfield Zoo, Pumpkin Creek Farms, Steam Show, Illinois State Museum, Kidzeum, and the Fire Safety House are in the books! Learning outside of the classroom, or reinforcing things learned in the classroom with an outside experience always keeps things interesting for our students. We have enjoyed 2 Pack the House nights at Leo's Pizza. Please join us on the third Thursday of each month for fellowship at Leo's, or to take out and bring home. Mention Salem and we receive a percentage back from foods purchased. We have fielded a Cyclones Volleyball team with students from grades 3-8. Even though we play with much younger students, they have held their own with good competitive games. Thank you to Mrs. Jackie Steinacher for leading them! Both our Preschool and K-8 have shared their love of Christ with the congregation by singing in church. We look forward to their Christmas/ Advent Service on December 13. We look forward to the Trunk or Treat and Community Chili Cook-off events coming at the end of October and beginning of November. Come out and fellowship with us!

PRESCHOOL Pre-K2 News from Ms. Hathaway and Ms. Sharrow:

Monthly Theme: Fall/Harvest

Bible Story: 10 Commandments

This month we have been exploring with pumpkins with our hands and our five senses that the Lord has gave us. We also explored with pumpkins by having our families participate in a pumpkin decoration contest! The winners are Charlotte "overall winner", Caroline "most creative", Braxton "most funny", and Lou "scariest"!



PRESCHOOL Pre-K3 News from Mrs. Blayre Petri:

Monthly Theme: Fall/Harvest

Bible Story: 10 Commandments

The students have been learning about the season of fall this month! Some of the things we have been doing include a leaf painting collage, making squirrels, and decorating acorns. The students continue practicing writing their name, working on writing the letter of the week on our smart boards, and putting things in order from smallest to biggest. We have talked about what happens to leaves during this time of year, what squirrels eat, and what squirrels do with their food during the fall. The 2k-4k also got to experience a fun fall science experiment. Each student got to participate in our pumpkin volcano eruption. Fun was had by all!



PRESCHOOL Pre-K4 News from Mrs. Lysaythong:

Monthly Theme: Fall/Harvest

Bible Story: 10 Commandments

The students learned about the season fall that God created for everyone to enjoy. They observed the changes in the weather from warm to cool, collected colorful leaves, and made a leaf collage. The students learned to identify and write the numbers from 1-10, practiced writing their names in the kindergarten way,

and discussed about the various food that are harvested during autumn. For science and math the students measured ingredients, mix batter, and baked a pumpkin pie for snack!



Kindergarten News from Mrs. Audrey Sprinkel: We are so excited for fall in kindergarten! This month we are learning all about fall, pumpkins, apples, and more. We are incorporating fall into our daily learning, such as in science we will be doing an apple volcano. In reading we are learning all about rules we have to follow in different places. Students are using "Mary had a Little Lamb" to talk about school rules. In math we are working on problem solving, AB and ABB patterns, identifying shapes based on their characteristics, and money. Students are using class money to purchase items from the class store, as well as playing in a class grocery store to work on their money sense. We are tying in our money sense from math into our social studies unit. Students are learning all about goods and services, how goods are made, and who can provide services, such as teachers and doctors. In science we are learning about pets and how to take care of them. We have talked about dogs and cats already, and will be learning more about birds and other pets. Our class is taking a field trip October 24, to wrap up our unit on the healthy body and community. We are going to the Kidzeum in Springfield. November is going to be a great month, and we cannot wait to share it with you! God Bless!

1st & 2nd Grade News from Mrs. Deborah Steinacher: October has been a busy month. In science we have been learning about how God filled our wonderful world with lots of plants. We took a field trip to Pumpkin Creek Farm. We had a great day of outdoor learning! We toured the pumpkin patch and learned about how the pumpkin plant grows. Then we visited the petting zoo, played in the corn, made it through the corn maze twice, and so much more. We also walked around the church and school to learn about the roots, trunks, bark, branches, and leaves of the shrubs and trees. We compared them to the flowers around the buildings. It was fun to compare some of the plants God made for us. We have been busy using art to create fall trees. We used daubers to learn about pointillism. We also made shadow art or silhouettes of

trees using a fall background. We are also working hard on our chapel message, "Being Thankful." The first through fourth grade students are working on a message about the ten lepers and the one who returned to Jesus to thank Him for healing him. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to remember how much God does for us. Thank you for your support. God's blessings.

3rd, 4th & 5th Grade News from Mrs. Jacqueline Steinacher: Fall is a wonderful time to gather with friends and family and show our gratitude for God's love! We have prepared for Fall by creating leaf chalk designs and geometric fall-themed art projects. Our hallways are filled with the students' beautiful artwork! In Science, we have been discussing Chemistry. The students have been learning about the elements that make up our bodies, and the nutrients that are needed to take care of them. In Social Studies, we have been discussing weather and the environment. The students watched a video about the coldest village on Earth, Yakutia, Russia; and compared the lives of the children in that community to their own. In Religion, the students learned about the life of Martin Luther and the importance of the Reformation. In Math, the students learn in different ways by using models to understand more difficult concepts. They are using real-life models to understand concepts such as multiplication, fractions, and giving directions. The students are continuing to develop their language skills by learning spelling, grammar, writing skills, and reading comprehension. As we finish up our first quarter of school; it is hard to believe the year is a quarter of the way done! Time flies by when you are busy learning and having fun! God's Blessings, Mrs. Jackie Steinacher.

6th & 8th Grade News from Ms. Joy Reitsma: The middle school has been busy this month with learning. They are learning about early civilizations. We have been comparing what is talked about in the history book to what they know from the Bible. They continue to work through the body, studying the digestive system and how foods they eat impact the functions of the body. They are writing research papers on how people or events impacted the Reformation. They



learned their next song for Sunday worship. They learned how to make a pillow from a silk painting they did in art class. Thank you to Debbie Dertz for sharing your gift of sewing with the class and teaching them how to make pillows!

OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP
WORK PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 8/31/2022 – 07/31/2023

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

CURRENT FINANCIAL
INDEBTEDNESS

7/31/22	8/31/23
Farmers State Bank Line of Credit	
\$122,900.20	\$0.00
Internal Loan from Restricted	
\$63,725.00	\$0.00
LEAP	
\$677,802.80	\$618,703.10

Financial Status Report for
August 2023

Our total operating needs monthly:	\$ 59,549.42
Our operating receipts August 2023:	\$ 48,354.41
Our total operating needs YTD:	\$ 77,228.01
Our total operating receipts YTD:	\$ 48,354.41
Our Shortfall or Excess YTD:	\$(28,873.60)