

Salem Lutheran
Church and School

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

April 2024 Newsletter

"Christ Is Risen!"

In about 1929, Nikolai Bukharin, a leading official of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union and chief ally of Chairman Joseph Stalin, journeyed from Moscow to Kiev. His mission was to address a huge assembly of the people who had been ordered to come to listen to him. His subject, the foolishness of Christianity and the superiority of atheism.

For a solid hour, he aimed his heaviest verbal artillery at Christianity, repeatedly bellowing out argument and ridicule directed at the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When he had finished, he glared at his captive audience, and viewed what he assumed was now the smoldering ashes of their Christian faith. "Are there any questions?" Bukharin demanded.

After a long period of deafening silence, one man slowly stood up and asked permission to speak. He carefully mounted the speaker's platform and moved close to the Communist leader. The audience was breathlessly silent, as the man surveyed them first to the right, then to the left.

At last, he shouted the ancient Christian greeting, "Christ Is Risen!" The vast assembly immediately arose as one man, and the response came crashing back like the sound of an avalanche, "He Is risen, indeed!!"

Jesus said, "I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (*Revelation 1:18*) Every Easter, we celebrate our living Savior, who though He died for all sin, came alive and lives forever. Because He lives, we too will live forever!

Pastor Brechbuhl

Footnote: Bukharin, about a decade later, orchestrated by rival Communist leaders, was accused of treason, convicted in a show trial, and executed!

Adapted from the *Cross Bearers Lenten Series*, published by Lay Renewal Publications, Tucker, Georgia.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry –
lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article –
April 2024

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a "title search." Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England. Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you'll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, "That's mine: I had it first." You can't understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it: You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income. Your neighbor's possessions are his: you don't have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society. But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:19–20). If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God's leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ. This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

APRIL BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

STRUBBE, Keith L.	1-Apr
WARCUP, Gerald W.	1-Apr
WELLENKAMP, Evelyn K.	1-Apr
CAMPBELL, Jack K.	1-Apr
NIX, Joseph	1-Apr
KIESEL, Collin J.	1-Apr

SULLIVAN, Shyanne R.	1-Apr	THIES, Luca E.	17-Apr
MOLOHON, Dustin L.	2-Apr	MAYBERRY, Helen I.	18-Apr
MATHIAS, Cody M.	2-Apr	LAWSON, Randall E.	19-Apr
NOBIS, Lakin	2-Apr	WITHEE, Jessica M.	19-Apr
GEHRKE, Eden L.	2-Apr	MONROE, David J.	19-Apr
ARING, Melissa K.	3-Apr	DELONG, Sharon L.	20-Apr
DOLEN, Jocelyn M.	3-Apr	MORRIS, Robert W.	20-Apr
NOBIS, Byron L.	4-Apr	SURRATT, Jaye H.	20-Apr
SLAVENS, Monte	5-Apr	LEDBETTER, Hilary A.	20-Apr
JARMAN, Dennis L.	5-Apr	EYER, Judith K.	21-Apr
CARLSON, DEBRA A.	5-Apr	CAMPBELL, Wanda K.	21-Apr
BAILEY, Mary A.	6-Apr	BRADLEY Jr., Donald W.	22-Apr
ENGEBRECHT, Danny L.	6-Apr	WILSON, Isabella R.	22-Apr
CHRISTEN, Brenda J.	6-Apr	ELLIOTT, George W.	23-Apr
MORRIS, Deborah A. (Deby)	6-Apr	WIEGAND, Dana L.	23-Apr
PENNELL, Dessa E.	6-Apr	RUNYON, Faith J.	23-Apr
RUNYON, Judith A. (Judy)	6-Apr	TOMHAVE, Chase M.	24-Apr
VIEIRA, Trenna S.	6-Apr	WILLIAMS, Pamela J. (Pam)	25-Apr
LEUTZ, Dawn M.	6-Apr	ENGEBRECHT, Joseph A.	25-Apr
MILLER, Joseph E.	6-Apr	PRICE, Hank	25-Apr
SCHONE, Karmy L.	7-Apr	PRICE, ZEKE E.	25-Apr
HADDEN, Dale B.	7-Apr	SCULLEY, Joseph E.	26-Apr
EVANS, Doris E.	8-Apr	GANT, Lakin E.	26-Apr
BEZLER, Lauren E.	8-Apr	FRAZIER, Connar M.	26-Apr
CHUMLEY, Shelby A.	9-Apr	LAWRENCE, Breaun N.	26-Apr
VEDDER, Vicky A.	9-Apr	HILSABECK, Margaret M. (Molly)	27-Apr
ERIXON, Dillon T.	9-Apr	RYALS, Savannah R.	28-Apr
HILL, Shirley A.	10-Apr	HANNEL, Lucille M.	29-Apr
ZIMMER, Linda K.	10-Apr	SCHUMACHER, Kyle M.	29-Apr
FAIRFIELD, Kevin J.	10-Apr		
GILLIS, Dorothy H.	10-Apr		
LOWERY, Donna J.	10-Apr		
LOWERY Jr, Michael S. (Steve)	10-Apr		
ROBINSON, Conner C.	11-Apr		
TOMHAVE, Karen L.	12-Apr		
HOOD, Jena L. (Jena)	12-Apr		
BAKER, Corey L.	12-Apr		
HILL, James K.	13-Apr		
STRUBBE Jr., William M.	13-Apr		
RUNYON, Darrell J.	15-Apr		
ELLIOTT, George A.	15-Apr		
Burger, Benjamin J.	15-Apr		
KORDING, AMY N.	15-Apr		
KORDING, Erin E.	15-Apr		
WOHLERS, Ralph A.	16-Apr		
PAHLMANN, Julie A.	16-Apr		
MICHAEL, Gerald W. (Mike)	17-Apr		
HENDERSON, Jane M.	17-Apr		

HOLY WEEK **SERVICESCHEDULE**

Palm Sunday, March 24th @ 9 AM

Maundy Thursday, March 28th @
Noon and 6:30 pm

Good Friday, March 29th @ Noon
and 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday, March 31st @ 9 AM

PREACHING SCHEDULE PASTORS

NOTE: ALL START TIMES ARE AT 9 AM & 6:30 PM

April 7	Schurb	9:00 am
April 14	Strattman	9:00 am
April 21	Brechbuhl	9:00 am

IN SYMPATHY: Maxine Janet Lashmet passed away Saturday, February 24th. Maxine is survived by her husband Ron, their son Craig (Rita) Lashmet of Wilmette, IL and their daughter Debra Lashmet Carlson of Chicago, IL, grandchildren, Chris (Annie) Lashmet Lauren Lashmet, Katie Lashmet, Christina Carlson, Claire Carlson, and John Carlson. Maxine is also survived by her sisters, Bonita (Carl) Becker of Alexander, Evelyn (David) Thompson of Carrollton, and brother Henry (Carole) Huppe of Arenzville. A funeral service was held on Thursday, February 29th at Salem Lutheran Church with burial at Jacksonville Memorial Cemetery. May the Lord bless all whom mourn the Loss of this loved one!

IN SYMPATHY: Greg Geiger passed away on Tuesday, February 27th in Farragut, TN. Greg is survived by his wife Ruth; his sons, Eric (Kaye) Geiger of Orange County, CA and Philip (Laura) Geiger of Raleigh, NC, five grandchildren; his brother, Grant (Emily) Geiger of St. Petersburg, FL; his sister Melissa Walsh of Gladstone, MO; his brothers-in-law; Martin (Beverly) Werries, John (Ruth) Werries of Chapin. Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, March 9th at the First Baptist Church Concord, in Farragut, TN. Graveside service will be on Monday, March 11th at 10:00 am at Concord Cemetery in Concord, IL. May the Lord bless all who mourn the loss of this Loved One!

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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.

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL: If you have the Lutheran Magazine and wish to renew it or would like to subscribe to it, now is the time to do it. The cost is \$20.65 per year or \$1.72 per issue, there are 11 issues mailed over a 12-month period. June/July issue is combined. Please turn in your address and money to the office by Wednesday, May 1st. Thank you

BABY BOTTLES: If you took a baby bottle to fill with your spare change, please return the bottle back to the office. Thank you.

DOORBELL DINNERS: If you are available and interested in helping with Doorbell Dinners this spring, please call Rita Tendick (217)473-5017. Salem is assigned the weeks of April 1-5 and April 29-May 3rd. Your help is much needed and appreciated.

ANNUAL SALEM SPRING FESTIVAL: The auction committees are meeting and gearing up for the Spring Festival. There will be an Auction, Let's Make A Deal, and meal. The meal will consist of Spaghetti, Garlic Bread and desserts. Check out your basements,

garages and storage sheds to see if you have anything to donate to the auction. If you do have something you would like to donate, please call David Hannel (217)492-0722. Thank you.

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.

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.

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

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: The fourth quarter is off and running! Another basketball season is in the books. Thank you to all who came out to cheer on our Cyclones. Our last parent-teacher conferences for the year are done, and we are heading into the home stretch for the 2023-2024 school year. Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is going strong. Our preschool classes are filling up fast! We

have begun to hire staff for the summer and next year as well. Summer Camp registration is out, and we are looking forward to another fun-filled summer with our themed weeks of camp. We welcome Melissa Manson to our staff. She will be finishing the year with Mrs. Wilson in the 2K class. She will then coordinate our summer camp program and join our teaching staff in the fall. If you know of anyone-either student or staff who wants to join the Salem family, have them call the office for more information! We are looking forward to Spring Auction Night in April and the Fine Arts Night in May.

PRESCHOOL Pre-K2 News from Ms. Wilson:

Pre-k 2 has been focusing on their shapes, colors and numbers 1-10. Not only are we focused on fishers of men this month, but we have also dived deeper into the children's bible and read 2 bible stories a week. They even sometimes like watching the Veggie Tale Bible Story version. We got to spend a whole week rhyming with Dr. Seuss and making art to go along with his famous stories. We are now focusing our learning and art towards insects and of course Easter. We are not only celebrating the Real reason of Easter but also inviting our parents in on Friday to join us in an Easter egg hunt. Our auction piece is very cute and I cannot wait to see how much it goes for! We look forward to seeing everyone on Palm Sunday.

PRESCHOOL Pre-K3 News from Ms. Martin:

Pre-K 3 has been focusing on the letters O, P, & Q, the numbers 9, 10, and revisiting other numbers as well. Our Bible story this month is Fishers of Men. The children have been learning the song we are fishers of men and it's a little catching tune that explains God will be there for them in all ways. We talked and learned about Dr. Seuss in the first week of March to celebrate his birthday and all the arts to go along with it. For the rest of March, we are learning more about insects and butterflies. Discussing why some insects are important for our plant life cycle and some for other animals as food. Our class has been working on completing the art project for our school auction in April. The kids have painted and helped to trace and cut their hands out of different textured wallpaper to give out piece more of texture and uniqueness to it. Pre-K 3 has continued to learn and work on our song for Palm Sunday as well to perform for the congregation.

PRESCHOOL Pre-K4 Mrs Lysaythong: The students listened to The Beginner's Bible story of, "Fisher's of Men" and learned that it doesn't matter how old they are, they can still spread Jesus love and message to other people. Because God wants us to love each other and introduce them to Jesus! **Preschool 4:** The students have been practicing their song for Palm Sunday and are ready to follow Jesus examples just like in the story of "Fisher's of Men"! March's focus is bugs, insects, and butterflies all God's beautiful creations! In art the students constructed a

ladybug and bee with paper and glue. The students got treated to Holly Cakes Bakery for working so hard on their kindergarten readiness skills! Can you believe it they can read! From the student's coin drive, they were able to purchase additional riding toys for Salem. What an extraordinary gesture to show Jesus's love by giving a little to make a huge impact! Our students are amazing!



Kindergarten News from Mrs. Audrey Sprinkel:

Happy March! We are doing so much in kindergarten! The quarter ended March 8th, and students have learned so much! Students are currently practicing for Palm Sunday where we will sing for the church! Students have been working hard and have been doing great! We have been studying life cycles in reading and science, and we are hatching butterflies this spring! In history we are talking about our culture, other cultures, and influential people in history! In math, students have been learning how to subtract using a number line, using tangrams, and working on problem solving! In religion, we are talking about the power that Christ has. In doing so, we learned about Jesus and the miracles He performed. We have talked about how Jesus healed a paralyzed man, a blind man, and healed the sick, such as when Jesus healed a royal official's son in John 4:43-54. We are so excited to continue to share with everyone what we are learning and doing in the

classroom as the school year winds down. Thank you for your continued support and prayer! God Bless!

1st & 2nd Grade News from Mrs. Deborah Steinacher March has been a very busy month! We have been working on our class project for the silent auction. The class has learned how to sand, remove the dust from the sanding, and to stain. They have also stenciled the planters that will be going with our project. They are excited for everyone to see it. We have also been busy making Easter table decorations and placemats for the Easter breakfast. We have also learned how important it is to have both Christmas and Easter. They worked on their second chapel message which connected Christmas and Easter and why we need Jesus to be born at Christmas and to die for us at Easter. Thank you for your support! We all greatly appreciate all you do for us. God's blessings.

3rd, 4th & 5th Grade News from Mrs. Jacqueline Steinacher: It is an exciting time in Grades 3-5 as we have many upcoming projects! We continue to work on our class art project for the upcoming Spring Auction. We are also building our individual art portfolios and creating pieces for our upcoming Art Night in May. We are finishing up our Geography unit and will spend the rest of the school year reviewing what we have learned. The students have learned the locations of all 50 states, their capitals, and their abbreviations; as well as the names and locations of 80 countries around the world! Their progress this year has been amazing! In Science, we completed a microbiology lab in which we sampled areas around the school to check for microbiological growth. The students had so much fun learning about microbiology this way. In Math, the students are learning about geometry and how to classify shapes we see in everyday life. In Language Arts, we continue to develop our language skills by developing an oral presentation which will be given at the end of the month. God Bless, Mrs. Jackie Steinacher.

6th & 8th Grade News from Ms. Joy Reitsma: The middle school has been learning about the body and things that affect it. They have also learned the major body systems. They are studying ancient cultures and are currently working on Ancient Greece. Math is varying levels of algebra. Language arts is currently working on the art of persuasion which teaches them how to defend their point of view with a well thought out argument complete with supporting points of view. In art we are working on our auction project and are pieces for the Fine Arts Night in May. We are looking forward to graduating 2 eighth graders this year!

WORK PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 8/1/2023 – 07/31/2024

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

CURRENT FINANCIAL INDEBTEDNESS

7/31/23	1/31/2024
Farmers State Bank Line of Credit	
\$0.00	\$13,500.00
Internal Loan from Restricted	
\$63,725.00	\$0.00
	LEAP
\$677,802.80	\$521,861.32

Financial Status Report for January 2024

Our total operating needs monthly:	\$ 59,549.42
Our operating receipts January 2024:	\$ 48,228.30
Our total operating needs YTD:	\$387,547.68
Our total operating receipts YTD:	\$367,665.91
Our Shortfall or Excess YTD:	\$(19,8815.77)