

The Call of this Season

I've been noticing the bees this spring. They are always busy. Hovering and gathering, then speeding away in search of another flower. It's their calling. Now I know it doesn't make sense to personify a bee; but I do believe that God has created every living creature and every living thing for a special purpose. That includes each of us. We are part of God's good creation and called to a particular purpose. We are called to make a footprint in newly poured cement, disrupting man-made perfection. We are called to make a splash in the kiddie pool, spraying love and affection in all directions. We are called to spread seeds of peace and to tender sprouts of justice. We are called to climb mountains of sorrow and to rest in gardens of delight. God has called each of us to a special purpose, to a unique path, and equipped us with unique qualities and capabilities, so that we may indeed serve God's will in this world. By the power of God's Holy Spirit.

The apostle Paul writes this in 1 Corinthians 12:

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

So how do we respond to the call of the Spirit?

How does the Spirit move in and through us?

How do we know to what and to where we are being called? For many, that is a life-long venture. And many of us will indeed flail and fail our way through life, experimenting with circumstance and encountering the unexpected. Because, even though we think we thrive on being in control of our lives, our best guidance is given by God's Holy Spirit. Where we experiment and fail, God never fails us.

The call of the Spirit is the voice of joy that moves in and through us when we are responding to the call, not out of obligation, but rather because we've taken a leap of faith, trusting that even in the unknown, we are being shepherded. And lo and behold, often we find our greatest joy in something we may never have dreamed of doing. Such is the gift of life and love given and guided by the Spirit.

Peace and joy be with you,

Pastor Sue

**PRESIDENT**

Rita Gustafson

VICE PRESIDENT

David Long

TREASURER

Nancy Patterson

SECRETARY

Becky Potenberg

LEARNING

Miranda Luder

PROPERTY

Mark Staes

WORSHIP

Becky VanErstvelde

SERVICE

Kim Luder

YOUTH

Ruby Clark

WITNESS

Jessica Clark

STEWARDSHIP

Allison Senkbeil

PASTOR

Sue Hoff

Immediately following worship



This meeting will be for the election of officers of the congregation and members of the Church Council.

Committee Reports are due to the office by Wednesday, May 20 to insure the report is done by June 1 for congregational review prior to the meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Council Meeting Minutes Summary 5/21/26

Excused/Absent: David Long, Becky VanErstvelde, Jessica Clark, Ruby Clark, Kim Luder, Miranda Luder

Devotions: Nancy Patterson

Council Minutes: Becky Potenberg
Allison to motion, Nancy to 2nd, unanimously approved

Treasurer's/Financial Reports: Nancy Patterson
Wayne motioned, Pastor Sue 2nd, unanimously approved

Pastor's Report: Pastor Sue

-Confirmation program debriefing

-LOMC retreat July 10-12th

- Update on Physical Plant
- 25,000 for new boiler, Boiler repair 9,000
- Elevator repair cost was \$18,000 (original estimate was \$40,000)
- Endowment will match 50% of sound system costs if congregation raises the other half
- Money in memorials: \$8,000; pastor's discretionary as optional
Motion to launch a short-term capital campaign targeting two major expenses: boiler/furnace replacement (~\$25,000) and new sound system
Pastor Sue motioned, Nancy 2nd, unanimously approved
- Stewardship and Fundraising
Culver's fundraiser night: July 23, 5–8 PM; tax-exempt form needed; volunteers required or proceeds forfeited
Bible Bowl/trivia night being planned as fall/winter event
Blood drive: July 14, hosted at Salem (accessibility advantage over Calvary)
Memorial Wishlist Recommendations: Portable sound system, Hearing assist devices, TV
- Update on RIM and Pathways
- Pathways energy audit begins post-May 31; council participation requested
- Status of Sabbatical Policy
- Draft in progress, expected to be completed for council review in June
Policy binder proposed to consolidate all church policies (safe church, time off, sabbatical, etc.)
Congregational meeting (not annual meeting per synod rules) on June 14th; capital campaign to be announced
Potluck to follow congregational meeting
Outdoor worship in August, more details to come

Adjournment/Lord's Prayer

Adjourned at 7:20 PM

Allison motioned, Pastor Sue 2nd, unanimously approved

Registration is now open!
Scan the QR Code, or forms are
available on Facebook or
website: salemmoline.org



It's coming!!
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 20 - 24, 2026
9:00AM - 12:00Noon
Ages 3 - 7th Grade



**The annual Tea was a
rousing success!**

Thank you all!





Stewardship Corner:

Is everyone ready for the congregational meeting? We are still in need of a few council and committee leaders/members for Witness, Service, Endowment, Long-Range Planning, and the Nominating Committee. Have you thought about using your skills and gifts to serve on one of these committees? Please contact Wayne Thompson if you would like more information on one of these positions. Being on a committee or council is a very fulfilling way to serve and be involved with the day to day operations of Salem.

We are also still in need of an Altar Flower Coordinator. If you are interested in arranging sponsors for our beautiful flower arrangements each week, please contact Becky VanErsteveld or another member of council.

Thanks for being the hands and feet of Christ. Keep serving!



Happy 4th of July

classroomclipart.com
<http://classroomclipart.com>

Steve and Rene' Morford recently had a display at the Moline Public Library showing examples of the art of book-binding.

Please see the articles below about Steve and Rene'.

Thank you for sharing your talents not only as displayed, but also by repairing the hymnals of Salem Lutheran!



Steve Morford is a retired engineering technician from the Arsenal in Rock Island living in Moline with his wife and cat. He has taken up his long time bad habits of calligraphy and book arts as a way to avoid real work in his retirement years. Having studied with Daniel Essig, Sheila Waters, Bill Hannan and Paul Herrera he brings an obsessive attention to the small details of the art works and loves the old ways of making things by hand and takes time to prick several fingers with a sewing needle before finishing a book. Steve has also been an English teacher in Wisconsin and a Math teacher in Iowa. He loves antique tractors, slam poetry competitions, storytelling, extremely old books, movies and cats. The wooden covered books are hand made from hardwood boards, sawn, shaped, drilled, painted and finished by hand and then bound with Mohawk Superfine writing paper and waxed linen thread in the Coptic style of the 5th century. Many thanks must be given to the wife who has rescued the production schedules many more times than can ever be repaid.

Rejne Robinson Morford is a retired computer programming and information technology specialist from the Arsenal in Rock Island living in Moline with her husband Steve (above) and Cosmo, the cat. She has taken up her own long time favorite activities of basket weaving, quilting, knitting, crocheting, book binding and journaling to enhance her retirement years. She brings her own sense of color and balance to the details of her art works and also loves the old ways of making things by hand. Rene has also been a Geography teacher and a daycare instructor/owner in her past life.. She loves gardening, romantic comedies, musicals, decorating for holidays, kayaking, hiking in the woods and teaching arts and crafts to the local community.



Stewardship Statistics

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Apr Actual	Apr Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$15,356.19	\$17,882.00	\$74,547.60	\$66,882.34
Expenses	\$23,882.21	\$23,537.38	\$101,071.53	\$96,649.79
Net Income	(\$8526.02)	(\$5,655.38)	(\$26,523.94)	(\$29,767.45)

A T T E N D A N C E

Date	Sunday	Public	Private	YouTube	Total
Apr 5	137	38	77	5	257
Apr 12	56	49	31	5	141
Apr 19	60	74	34	11	179
Apr 26	76	66	43	5	190

Altar Flower Sponsor Schedule

June 2026

Jun 7	Susan Boyle
Jun 14	Annette Dietz
Jun 21	Jon and Rita Gustafson
Jun 28	Becky and Tom VanErstvelde

Altar Guild / Worship June 2026

Paraments - Darlene Hann

Communion Set up - Darlene Hann

Greeters

Jun 7	Rita Gustafson
Jun 14	Camiel VanErstvelde
Jun 21	Deb Kronfeld
Jun 28	Becky VanErstvelde

Assisting Ministers - May 2026

Sunday	Assistant
Jun 7	Jon Gustafson
Jun 14	Lizzie Dail
Jun 21	David Long
Jun 28	Allison Senkbeil

Salem Lutheran Church

1724 15th Street
Moline, IL 61265
309-764-5614
salem@salemmoline.org
www.salemmoline.org

Worship: Sunday

Fellowship: 9:00AM
Sunday School: 9:00AM
Worship: 10:00AM

Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
8:00AM to 12:00PM

Last, But Not Least....



Mexican Lotería Fundraiser

San José Obrero Church warmly invites you to support our upcoming Mexican Lotería fundraiser by donating a prize that will be given to a winning family in your name.

Donations such as gift cards and everyday household essentials are greatly appreciated and will help support families in our community

Thank you in advance for your kindness, generosity, and continued support of our parish community!

The
Mexican Lotería
will be held during
Summer 2026!

Donations can be delivered to
Trinity Lutheran Church,
1330 13 St. Moline, IL
until **june 12th 2026**

