

Feeling the Spirit

There is something I didn't realize when I signed up to be a pastor. Well, okay, I didn't "sign up." I was called. But, I digress.

What I didn't realize when I became a pastor is that, in part, my own worship life would change pretty drastically. Before being a pastor, I looked forward to Sundays, because worship was my happy place. Sunday worship was my place of refuge. A place where I could put aside life's demands and bask in the warmth of God's grace and forgiveness.

*In case you are wondering, worship is still my happy place. But it is different now because there are many necessary things on a Sunday morning that give me ample room to be distracted. And that's okay! I point this out because I am so very grateful for being your pastor and I am so very thrilled to have been in your light on the first Sunday of October. Yes, **YOUR light!***

Your light, which is a reflection of the light of Christ, was gleaming in the faces of our young people; in the presence of our families, everyone, young and old; in the spirit of our praise music and our hymns; in your voices raised in prayer and song. I saw the light of your faces, a reflection of God's Holy Spirit, as we shared God's peace and communed together.

It's not that I never experience this during worship. But it was a complete joy to be able to experience your spirit and God's Holy Spirit, throughout the entirety of our worship. Not a single worry distracted me.

God's Holy Spirit is at work in you; and God is nudging each of us, calling us, forming us . . . continually. Salem has always been and will continue to be a work in progress, from our noisy and vibrant Sunday School kids, to our sociable and welcoming Sunday morning fellowship. From our current confirmation students to confirmation students of decades ago. Broken pipes and worn out boilers may worry us, but the "things" of this world, including our own building, won't stop our spirits and cannot stop the work of God's Holy Spirit in us.



Thanks be to God for the Holy Spirit's ways of working. May we continue to find joy in all we do to honor and serve the Lord who reigns in our hearts and gives us life today and forever.

Peace be with you my friends!

Pastor Sue



Time to get your ghouls together!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 24

6:00-7:00PM

Hot dogs, chips and lemonade available

**Call Becky at 309-738-9573 to reserve
your spot!**

Council Meeting Minutes 09/15/26

Present: Steve, Becky V, Mark, Deb, Rita, Nancy, Becky P (via phone)

Absent: Camiel, Pastor Sue, Allison

Meeting called to order at 6:34PM

Devotions were led by Becky V

Minutes of last meeting – sent out, no changes. Becky V moved, Mark 2nd, passed.

Treasurer's report – handed out, no changes. Deb moved, Mark 2nd, passed.

Pastor – no report

Sally – in mailboxes

Old Business

Property – JL Brady and Koehler will coordinate installing new HVAC system

Church Mutual – pictures sent in of issues resolved, still several to go. Emergency lights on all three floors – Mark to call John at Koehler.

Bell Tower leaking? Bi-State Masonry did prior work. Mark to check on.

Energy Audits – finished 3 of 6. This Sunday (Sept 20) we do our next – pizza and Price is Right. We will submit our numbers to the Synod. Plan to have done by end of month.

New Business

Portico Insurance – about a 12% increase for Salem (\$465/mo more) Nancy moved, Mark 2nd, passed.

Synod request – San Jose' Obero pastor's salary - half of their funding from another synod is gone. Going to refer to Endowment to see if they can support through Mission bucket.

Places to Donate – we get so many requests for donations – need to provide a list in Newsletter of where people can donate AFTER their regular donation to Salem. Call it "Giving Corner".

October 11 is next meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:20PM

Lord's Prayer recited.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kronfeld, Council Secretary

Church Council Members:

Rita Gustafson, President	Steve Morford, Vice-President	Nancy Patterson, Treasurer
Deb Kronfeld, Secretary	Becky Potenberg, Learning	Becky VanErstvelde, Worship
Mark Staes, Property	Allison Senkbeil, Stewardship	Camiel VanErstvelde, Youth
Witness	Service	Sue Hoff, Pastor

Welcome the Salem Praise Band!



Band Members: Brody Billings, Drew Klocke, Sally Patterson, Laura Crumbleholme, Chris Castle, Bob Castle, Beth Tagtmeier. (Allison Senkbeil was Assisting Minister).

Salem Bells are ringing!



Bell Ringers present for picture: Laura Crumbleholme, Chris Castle, Karen Ege, Nancy Patterson, Beth Tagtmeier, Drew Klocke.

Watch announcements for when they will be ringing!



SALEM IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

Employees from JL Brady have started the installation of the new HVAC units.



Bible Study is back – Tuesday at 6:00PM, Wednesday at 9:30AM
and Sunday at 9:00AM



CROP Walk / Noisy Offering

We collected over \$50 to go to the CROP Walk on Sunday, September 27.

The CROP Walk had 21 people, 7 dogs and raised over \$800. Donations will continue to be taken through October. Please see Sally to make a donation.



Welcome back to Sunday School!!





Every 4th Sunday (starting in September), the "Food Barrel" will be in the Narthex to collect food for a local food pantry.

Any loose change in the offering that Sunday will also be donated.

Thank you for your donations!

Contact Becky or Camiel VanErstvelde with questions.



Mitten / Hat / Scarf Tree

There will be a Christmas Tree set up in the Narthex starting August 23rd that you are able to fill with mittens, hats and scarves that will be donated to the students at Willard School.

If you have any questions, please contact Becky or Camiel VanErstvelde.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

Stewardship Corner

Hi all,

We are getting closer to the end of the year! Our first Food Pantry Sunday went amazing and the bin was definitely heavy when it was taken downstairs to load up. We will continue to do these on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Trunk or Treat is coming up fast and we are still getting people's trunks signed up. If you are interested in some creativity, please consider decorating your trunk. We normally have a big turn out and the kids (and adults) really enjoy it.

In the next month or so, we will be sending out our Stewardship letter for 2027. Please start considering what time, talents, and gifts you might be able to share with Salem in 2027. Consider trying something new, maybe something that is out of your comfort zone. The best place to try something new is with your church family where we are all here to support. Continue being the hands and feet of God.

Happy Halloween!
Allison

LEGENDS ARE BORN IN OCTOBER

Marlea Clark	10/1
Steve Morford	10/1
John Anderson	10/3
Audee Porter	10/3
Emma Smith	10/3
Julie Smith	10/3
Jennifer Garnant	10/5
Kristine Harwood	10/7
Parry Gustafson	10/10
Amy Hillyer	10/10
Hannah Oswald	10/12
Deb Kronfeld	10/14
Joanne Halverson	10/17
Mia Hillyer	10/17
Susan Ketelaar	10/20
Bonnie Yuuvan	10/23
Corri Curry	10/23
James Kernan	10/24
Hadley Maertens	10/24
Quentin Smith	10/28
Leah Michel	10/31

Memorials Received

September 2026

In Loving Memory of Jeffery Kernan

Given by.....

Frank and Karen Ege,
Bonnie Casper, Linda Ontiveros,
Beth Tagtmeier, Linda Graflund,
Deb Kronfeld

IN LOVING
Memory



all anew
WOMEN OF THE ELCA

SERENITY CIRCLE

Join us the first Monday
(unless otherwise specified)

October 5

12:30PM

Second Floor Lounge

All ladies of Salem are welcome!

	August Actual	August Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$20,983.62	\$16,584.00	\$154,166.17	\$131,956.71
Expenses	\$25,725.04	\$30,170.97	\$198,184.37	\$195,823.49
Net Income	(\$4,741.02)	(\$13,586.97)	(\$44,018.20)	(\$63,866.78)

Date	Sunday	Public	Private	YouTube	Total
July 5	46	39	26	10	121
July 12	49	52	27	8	136
July 19	48	74	27	10	168
July 26	51	16	29	16	112

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Altar Flower Sponsor Schedule October 2026

Oct 4	Roger & Linda Lundgren
Oct 11	Dick & Margaret Castle
Oct 18	Richard & Sally Krantz
Oct 25	Deb Kronfeld

Altar Guild / Worship October 2026

Paraments -

Communion Set up - Bob and Nadyne Stockhecke

Greeters

Oct 4	Rita Gustafson
Oct 11	Becky VanErstvelde
Oct 18	Deb Kronfeld

Oct 25

Assisting Ministers – October 2026

Sunday	Assistant
Oct 4	Jim Kernan
Oct 11	Becky Potenberg
Oct 18	Nancy Patterson
Oct 25	Jon Gustafson

Salem Lutheran Church

1724 15th Street Moline, IL 61265
309-764-5614

salem@salemmoline.org www.salemmoline.org

Sunday Worship:

Fellowship: 9:00AM

Sunday School: 9:00AM (Sept-May)

Worship: 10:00AM

Office Hours:

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

Last, But Not Least.....



Calling all Salem / Willard partnership past and present volunteers

After over 33 years of serving the children of Willard School, our Salem-Willard outreach program is looking to wrapping up our service. Plans are to close the school at the end of this school year. We would like to document our time together with one last photo at the school **following our church service on October 11**. Anyone who helped in any way throughout our 33 years is invited to meet us in front of the school on October 11. In case of rain we will gather at the church.



It's been a great and
memorable ride!

Hope you are able to
join us October 11!