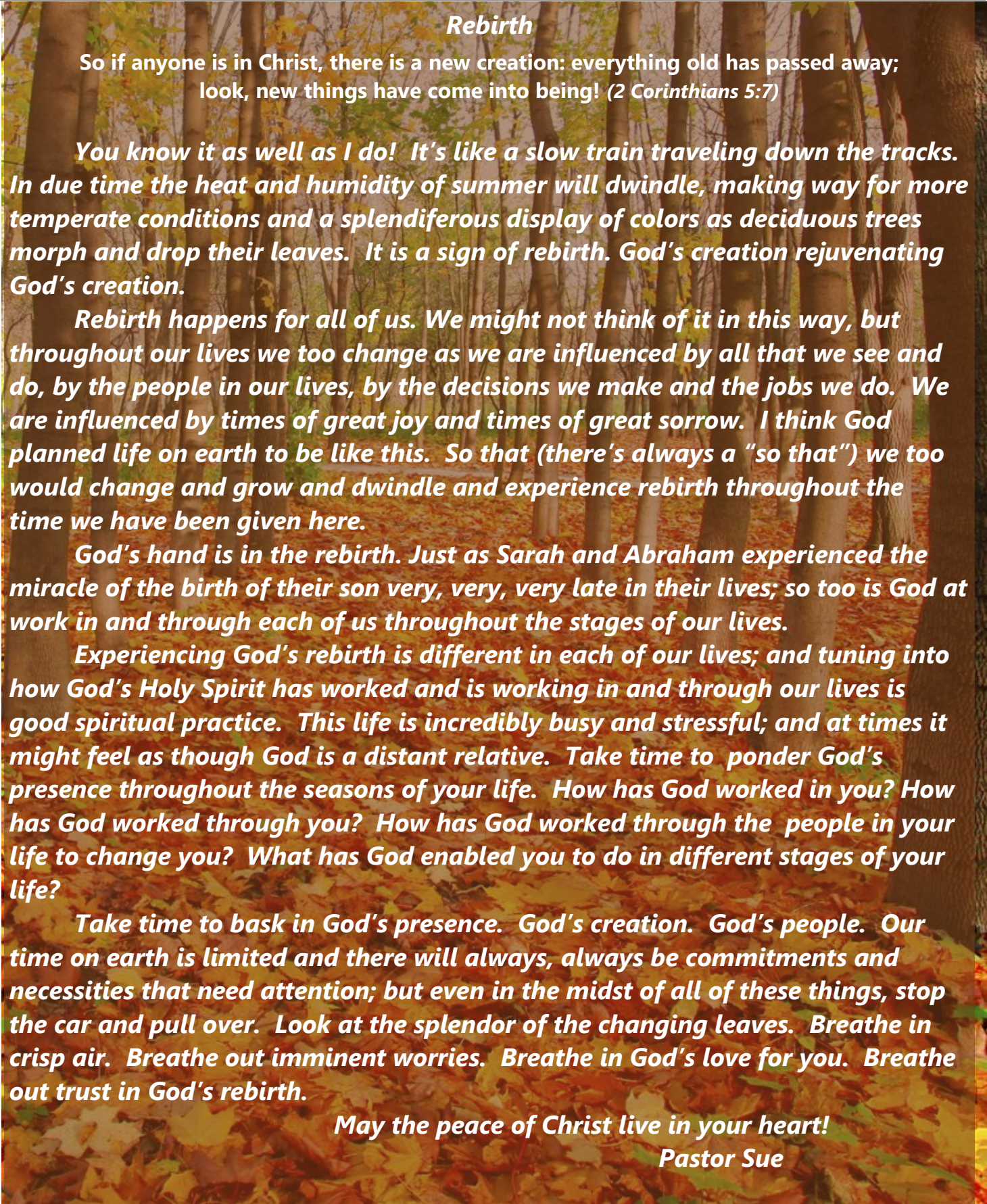




### *Rebirth*

**So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! (2 Corinthians 5:7)**

***You know it as well as I do! It's like a slow train traveling down the tracks. In due time the heat and humidity of summer will dwindle, making way for more temperate conditions and a splendiferous display of colors as deciduous trees morph and drop their leaves. It is a sign of rebirth. God's creation rejuvenating God's creation.***

***Rebirth happens for all of us. We might not think of it in this way, but throughout our lives we too change as we are influenced by all that we see and do, by the people in our lives, by the decisions we make and the jobs we do. We are influenced by times of great joy and times of great sorrow. I think God planned life on earth to be like this. So that (there's always a "so that") we too would change and grow and dwindle and experience rebirth throughout the time we have been given here.***

***God's hand is in the rebirth. Just as Sarah and Abraham experienced the miracle of the birth of their son very, very, very late in their lives; so too is God at work in and through each of us throughout the stages of our lives.***

***Experiencing God's rebirth is different in each of our lives; and tuning into how God's Holy Spirit has worked and is working in and through our lives is good spiritual practice. This life is incredibly busy and stressful; and at times it might feel as though God is a distant relative. Take time to ponder God's presence throughout the seasons of your life. How has God worked in you? How has God worked through you? How has God worked through the people in your life to change you? What has God enabled you to do in different stages of your life?***

***Take time to bask in God's presence. God's creation. God's people. Our time on earth is limited and there will always, always be commitments and necessities that need attention; but even in the midst of all of these things, stop the car and pull over. Look at the splendor of the changing leaves. Breathe in crisp air. Breathe out imminent worries. Breathe in God's love for you. Breathe out trust in God's rebirth.***

***May the peace of Christ live in your heart!***

***Pastor Sue***



#### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

**President**

Rita Gustafson

**Vice President**

Steve Morford

**Treasurer**

Nancy Patterson

**Secretary**

Deb Kronfeld

**Learning**

Becky Potenberg

**Property**

Mark Staes

**Worship**

Becky VanErstvelde

**Youth**

Camiel VanErstvelde

**Stewardship**

Allison Senkbeil

**Service**

**Witness**

**Pastor**

Sue Hoff



**Move, Focus, Follow Jesus! Fidget into a fantastic new Sunday School year! Join us on September 27th at 9:00AM as we begin the Sunday School year with a “fidget-based” Sunday School! We’ll have fun, hands-on activities while learning how to put our trust and focus on God, and discover the peace found in His presence.**

**Bring your wiggles, your curiosity, and your love for Jesus!**

**We can’t wait to see you there!**

# Council Meeting Minutes 08/09/26

## RRO Church Council Meeting Minutes 08/09/26

Present: Becky Potenberg, Becky VanErstvelde, Camiel VanErstvelde, Mark Staes, Allison Senkbeil, Rita Gustafson, Nancy Patterson, Deb Kronfeld, Pastor Sue Hoff

Absent: Steve Morford

Call to Order: 11:16AM

Devotions: Deb

**Minutes:** Sent out, Pastor moved, Becky V seconded, passed

**Treasurer:** Sent out, nothing to add. Allison moved, Becky P seconded, passed

**Pastor:** No report

Confirmation meeting of Parents / Students Sept 23 in auditorium, classes start Sept 30 in Library

Sunday School will start Sunday, Sept 27

Evening Bible Study will start in September

**Staff:** Sally – No report

Camiel – Report sent

Allison – Culver's \$750 + \$71 contributions – maybe do several times a year

Blood Drive 12 doners – maybe do two a year

Becky – Trunk or Treat, October 24 from 6:00-7:00PM

Mark – JL Brady and Koehler Electric regarding HVAC unit and converting to Forced Air. Went over the bids, after discussion decided to: 1) get more bids based on specs from Brady and Koehler (Mark and Deb will submit), 2) call for Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 23 (Deb will sent / post notice on Monday), 3) ask Endowment to supply funds for conversion to Forced Air. The pumps we just had replaced / reconditioned can be pulled out and sold. Becky V moved, Allison seconded, passed.

## Old Business

**Pastor Joshua** – back from Wisconsin, but haven't heard from him. Trying to get insurance?

**RIM** – there will be no picnic.

Is RIM dying? Or need to change dramatically.

## New Business

**Pathways** – After discussion, decided not to continue. Deb moved, Becky P seconded, passed

**Energy Audit Potluck** – Sunday, August 23. Bishop Stacie Fidler has requested all churches in synod complete. Will have after Congregational Meeting.

**Brett Monnard** – Purchased a new tablet for recording. Old tablet to go to e-Waste.

**Constitution update** – Rita is working on (hopefully) last set of changes from Synod.

**New Ministries** – Grants are available from Synod and ELCA – Social Ministry / Outreach Grants / Service Grants.

Birthday Books / Birthday Cake Mix / Drive Up Baby Shower / January School Supply Drive

**September 13** – God's Hands Work Day – Allison working on it

## New events coming up –

Places to donate – list in Newsletter

Food Pantry – every fourth Sunday starting in September (and cash offering)

Mitten / Glove / Hat tree in Narthex

Coat Closet – Gently used coats

Pastor moved to adjourn, Allison seconded, passed

Lord's Prayer said

Meeting concluded 12:35PM

Respectfully submitted  
Deb Kronfeld  
Council Secretary

## Congregational Meeting Minutes 08/23/26

Rita called the meeting to order

Pastor said a prayer

Quorum was determined

Rita stated that the sole purpose of the meeting was discussion on the HVAC system and converting it to forced air.

Mark Staes gave a presentation of bids from JL Brady and Koehler Electric (noting we had requested other bids, but had received none). Failure to convert will mean no heat this winter.

Questions were asked from the congregation and answered.

Motion was made to ask Endowment to pay (through loan if necessary) for the total bill.

Seconded, passed.

Motion was made to convert HVAC to forced air. Seconded, passed.

Rita will get with the Endowment Committee.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted

Deb Kronfeld

Council Secretary

Willard School Supply Drive was a success! Thank you to all who donated.



Culver's Fundraiser  
raised \$750!

**Thank you Salem  
for your continued  
support.**

**Together we are GREAT!**



Just some of the volunteers who keep worship  
happening on a Sunday morning.

Thank you all!



## WIFFLEBALL Salem vs Trinity





## Mitten / Hat / Scarf Tree

There will be a Christmas Tree set up in the Narthex starting August 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.



Every 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

Time to get your “sneaks” on and join us for the **2026 CROP Walk**

Sunday, October 4      2:00PM

\*\*\*More details to follow\*\*\*



# Autumn FEST

## AT LOMC

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 10,  
2026**

**10AM – 3PM**

PUMPKIN  
CARVING

CIDER  
PRESSING

WAGON  
RIDES

*Activities*

**LUNCH**  
11AM – 1PM

**WORSHIP**  
3 PM

and so  
**MUCH  
MORE!**

*Bring your family and friends and join us  
for a day of fall fun, food, and fellowship!*



## Stewardship Corner

Hi everyone!

For those back in school, I hope the transition went smoothly. Starting this month, on the fourth Sunday of September, we will have a "Food Barrel" set up in the Narthex for collections for a local food pantry. We want to spread the love to our community and know that with the price of food and the job market, this is a great way to do that. We will continue to do this monthly.

We also have a Christmas tree set up (and some of you may be thinking, WOAHH, that's so early!!). This is to collect mittens/hats/scarves to donate to Willard school. It is never too early to be thinking about the cooler weather coming, especially thinking of those who may struggle during that time.

Don't forget about those Council and Committee position openings!

Thanks!  
Allison



**Time to get your ghouls  
together!**

**TRUNK OR TREAT**  
**Saturday, October 24**

**6:00-7:00PM**

Get those thinking caps on – or do you already know what you're going to be?  
Sign-up sheets are at the back door – make sure you let us know if you are doing a trunk!

Can't wait to see everyone!



|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Zeke Roseman      | 9/4  |
| Hailey Fulkerson  | 9/8  |
| Julie Geyer Miner | 9/8  |
| Maverick Hann     | 9/11 |
| Colly Peterson    | 9/14 |
| Richard Wood      | 9/15 |
| Cullen Tillberg   | 9/16 |
| Amy Jahn          | 9/16 |
| Sydney Woomert    | 9/16 |
| Emmett Kump       | 9/19 |
| Bonnie Lartz      | 9/20 |
| Ryan Curry        | 9/20 |
| Alexis Clark      | 9/21 |
| Diane Kelly       | 9/23 |
| Suzanne Witcher   | 9/24 |
| Logan Curry       | 9/30 |

## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP!

**Sept 23** Parent / Student Confirmation Meeting in Auditorium

**Sept 27** Rally Day – first day of Sunday School

**Sept 30** Drop-in starts 6:00-7:00PM in the Youth Room

**Sept 30** Confirmation class starts 7:00-8:00PM in Library

**Mark your calendars now!**



## SERENITY CIRCLE

**We will kick off the  
new year with lunch at**

**Pagalo's**

**119 W 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue**

**Milan IL**

**Monday, September 14**

**12:30PM**

**All ladies of Salem are welcome!**

|            | July<br>Actual | July<br>Budget | YTD<br>Actual | YTD<br>Budget |
|------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Income     | \$17,417.70    | \$14,200.94    | \$133,332.55  | \$115,372.71  |
| Expenses   | \$22,085.92    | \$22,084.11    | \$172,459.33  | \$165,652.52  |
| Net Income | (\$4,668.22)   | (\$7,883.17)   | (\$39,126.78) | (\$50,279.81) |

| 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

#### September 2026

|         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Sept 6  | Rick Jones                    |
| Sept 13 | Dick Fislar and Marcy Bell    |
| Sept 20 | Nancy and Rod Lindstrom       |
| Sept 27 | Emily, Camry, Chloe and Sarah |

### Altar Guild / Worship September 2026

**Paraments** - Allison Senkbeil

**Communion Set up** - Gordon and Karri Kinkead

#### Greeters

|         |                    |
|---------|--------------------|
| Sept 6  | Rita Gustafson     |
| Sept 13 | Kristine Harwood   |
| Sept 20 | Rick Jones         |
| Sept 27 | Becky VanErstvelde |

### Assisting Ministers – September 2026

| Sunday  | Assistant        |
|---------|------------------|
| Sept 6  | Jon Gustafson    |
| Sept 13 | Dick Fislar      |
| Sept 20 | Lizzie Dail      |
| Sept 27 | Allison Senkbeil |

#### Salem Lutheran Church

1724 15th Street Moline, IL 61265

309-764-5614

[salem@salemmoline.org](mailto:salem@salemmoline.org) [www.salemmoline.org](http://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.....*



Summer is in full swing! Gather a group of friends and join us for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois' annual **Golf Outing: Chip in Fore Children** and enjoy a great day outdoors while making a meaningful difference in your community. All proceeds support LSSI's local programs for children.

### **LSSI's Golf Outing: Chip in Fore Children**

Date: Saturday, September 12, 2026

Check In Time: Noon – 1 p.m.

Players should arrive no later than 1 p.m. for a shotgun tee start at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Highland Springs Golf Course

9500 35th St W, Rock Island, IL 61201

Proceeds will benefit LSSI's local programs for children.

**Cost:** \$75 per player or \$300 per team of four.

**Register by July 31 to receive 20 free raffle tickets!**

Registration includes 18 holes of golf, a golf cart, lunch, a goodie bag, and the chance to win exciting raffle prizes. We hope to see you there! [Visit LSSI.org/Golf to register, sponsor a hole, or learn more about foster care.](https://www.lssi.org/Golf) With questions, contact Brittany Wunderlich at [Brittany.Wunderlich@lssi.org](mailto:Brittany.Wunderlich@lssi.org).



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois