

Salem Ev. Lutheran Church & School

14940 62nd Street North
Stillwater, Minnesota 55082
651-439-7831

Visit our Website at www.salemlutheran.org

July, 2010

AN EXCITING TRIP BEING PLANNED!

Over the years my wife and I have had to joy of taking trips to Rome, Israel, Jordon, and China. We had to do so much planning before we could leave. Those of you who have traveled know what I mean. What do you need to take along? What should you not miss? What is not that important? What are the costs? You search the internet. You ask friends. You talk to people who have already been there. All of that is part of the excitement of the planning stage.

Here at Salem, we are getting ready for a trip. Where does God want to take us in the coming years? How do we make our plans? What should we not miss? What's not important? Whom should we talk to?

The following members of Salem have expressed there willingness to help plan the trip.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mark Enter (Chair) | 10. Barb Miller |
| 2. Mary Ecker | 11. Mitch Reiners |
| 3. Greg Galler | 12. Ramona Sanders |
| 4. Terry Graf | 13. Tim Sinclair |
| 5. Jane Grobe | 14. Debbie Swanson |
| 6. Tom Gruetzmacher | 15. Ron Wolff |
| 7. Bill Hansen | 16. LeRoy Yanta |
| 8. Dave Knefelkamp | 17. Dar Yoho |
| 9. Dave Loss | 18. Roger Zolldan |

As we make our plans, keep this ministry in your prayers. May the Spirit guide our thoughts, planning and decisions. We serve an awesome Lord and Savior. May all we do be to the glory of his name!

Pastor Birkholz

The Council Meeting minutes were not ready by printing time—We will include next month.

**Parish Notes Available
Online and via Email.**

The Parish Notes monthly newsletter is now available through the website and email. To sign up to receive the monthly email, go to

<http://www.salemlutheran.org/newsletter>

Men's Retreat

Time to start planning for the 2010 Men's Retreat.

Date and Time: September 17-19, 2010

(Friday evening through Sunday morning)

Location: [Beacon Shores Resort](#), Cross Lake, MN

Theme: Hidden Glory: Christ's Cross, Our Cross

Speaker: Professor Dan Deutschlander

For more information, go to [salemlutheran.org/mens-retreat](http://www.salemlutheran.org/mens-retreat)

Men's Bible Study Beginning July 14

The Men's Morning Bible Study Group meets Wednesday mornings from 6:30-7:30 am in the fireside room. The group will begin a new study on Romans beginning July 14. Guys, please join us for this definitive look at Law & Gospel. The Bread of Life (and breakfast!) will be served!

There will be NO Bible Study on June 30 or July 7

Financial Update...

Weekly Offerings

May 23	\$10,310.23	\$ 929.00 Missions
May 30	\$ 7,859.52	\$ 491.00 Missions
June 6	\$12,028.78	\$1,714.00 Missions
June 13	\$ 7,998.01	\$ 665.00 Missions
June 20	\$ 9,845.95	\$ 552.00 Missions

Offerings needed to meet budget each week
\$14,667.00 & \$1,250.00 Missions

(2 Corinthians 9:7) Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Please use separate checks for offerings other than current & missions. Thanks!

National Pioneer Camp

"In about a month Lutheran Boy Pioneers will be holding their 26th annual Camp LP. This year's week-long camp will be a return to our roots. The first Camp LP was held in 1985 at Pine Ridge Campground. This year we return to Pine Ridge. Much has changed since that first camp. Today Pine Ridge has cabins, shower facilities, a functional kitchen and resident caretakers in addition to the small lake, canoeing area, archery range and open areas that were there 25 years ago.

The camp is located near Waldo, WI. (Yes I can hear the question, "Where's Waldo?") Dates are July 11-17 for a full week and July 11-14 for a half week. You do not have to be involved in a Lutheran Pioneer group to attend. The camp is open to all boys who have completed 3rd grade or higher.

We also welcome dads, grandpa and other adults to join us for all or part of the week. If you would like more information or to register for camp go to:

<http://www.lpminc.org/2010campbooklet.pdf> or

E-mail us at lpoffice@tds.net or

Call us at 262-534-5124." 3

Women's Guild

Women's Guild has the summer off—They will meet again on Thursday, September 2, at 1:15 pm



Altar Guild Update

Remember to contact the church office if you want to place flowers on the altar!

Janet Crowder & Elaine Holz are the July Crew.

Monday Night Services

If you are away for the weekend and would like to worship during the week, we have an arrangement with Christ in North St. Paul, who offer Monday Night Services at 7 pm, every Monday, all year round. If you use your offering envelope from Salem, they will send it back to us.

If you want to reach our Pastors...

Pastor Birkholz can be reached at home, 651-430-2391

by e-mail mbirkholz@salemlutheran.org

Pastor Brohn can be reached at home, 715-381-1120

by e-mail jbrohn@salemlutheran.org

The Pastors' Church Office Phone Number is 651-439-5465.

New Broadcast times from the Cable Company: We have received new broadcast times for our worship service. The times on Channel 18 are:

Monday – 1 & 7 pm Tuesday – 7 am

Wednesday – 4 & 10 pm Thursday – 10 am



Salem Ladies' Luncheon Cruise

All ladies are invited to go on a luncheon cruise on Thursday, July 8th. We will board the boat at 11 am and will cruise

until about 1:30 pm. The luncheon will be a Deli Buffet (Cold Cuts, Cheese, Rolls, Cold Salads, & Cookies).

The cost is \$17.65 plus tax.

You will need to make your own reservation by calling the boat at 651-430-1234 and let them know you are with the Group from Salem!

We hope you can join us.

Parish Nurse Fund

We are still collecting for the Parish Nurse Fund. If you would like to donate, please note your donation on your envelope. There are marked envelopes for your donations in the rack in the Narthex. Thanks for your support!

There will be no **Mom's Bible Study** during the summer months (June, July, August), however we would still love to get together for some fun and fellowship. Below are listed some "Playdates in the Park" for anyone who would like to come. We plan to meet around 10am, weather permitting, and stay through lunch. So pack up the kids, pack a lunch and come join us! Any questions, you can contact Jennifer Agen at 651-430-9991/651-246-6373.

Wednesday, July 7th- Pioneer Park in Stillwater

Wednesday, July 21st- Grandview Park in Hudson

Wednesday, August 11th- Bayport Park in Bayport

Wednesday, August 25th- Washington Park in Stillwater





Please keep our members who are serving in the military in your prayers. Brandon Marth, David Zoldan, William Hansen, Jr., and Garrick Miller.

Committee Meeting Day

The Council decided to streamline operations and have all committee Meetings on the Tuesday prior to their council meeting.

**All of the Committees will have their meetings on
Tuesday, July 13, at 6:30 pm**

If you would like to be a part of a committee or have an issue to bring up at a meeting, this would be the time to do so.

Garage Sale

Salem will be having a "Garage Sale" on July 22-23 to sell off items we no longer have a use for. Prior to the sale, if you have any personal items that you don't want sold, either mark them or take them home. Thanks for your cooperation!



The Stillwater Senior Center is hosting the annual **"Baubles, Bangles and Bobbers Used Jewelry Sale"** on Thursday, August 19th from 9am-4pm. Please consider doing some de-cluttering and donate your used jewelry, jewelry boxes and/or gently used purses to a great cause. Also, we are looking for small sporting goods, such as fishing lures, tackle, golf items, etc. for our **special room for "the guys"!** **Proceeds from the fundraiser help** to provide quality programs, classes and educational opportunities for participants. Donations will be accepted until July 30th and can be dropped off at the Stillwater Senior Center, 2300 W. Orleans Street or in the designated church *donation box*. Thank you for your support! For more information call Karla at 651-439-7434.

SCRIP

We will continue to order Scrip cards throughout the Summer months. The schedule will remain the same. Orders will be collected the second and fourth Mondays (in the AM) of the month. Please drop off your completed form and check in the Scrip Lock Box in the narthex as the school office will not be available for drop off during the Summer. Orders will be available for pick-up the Friday following the order. Orders can be picked up in the church office during the week anytime between 7:30AM-2:30PM. If you are not able to pick up your order during these times, special arrangements can be made with me for pick-up.

We are also excited to announce Acapulco's gift cards will now be available with every order instead of only the first order of the month. Please continue to support our church and school with your Scrip orders and thank you to those of you who already do! Any questions, please contact Jennifer Agen at 651-430-9991/651-246-6373 or Dee Kane at 651-738-1733/651-248-3772.

EFT Contributions are now Available!!

The Stewardship Committee has made arrangements with Thrivent and their "Simply Giving" program to make available the option of authorizing electronic transfers from your checking/savings account to make your contributions to church. Forms are available in the rack in the Narthex. Forms should be turned into the Church Office. If you have any questions, contact the church office.

School News

School is over... On Friday June 4th, another school year came to an end! The day began with a closing chapel service and was followed by school and 8th grade awards. The following 8th graders were honored:

Valedictorian: Megan Reiners

Salutatorian: Megan Starry

Presidential Award: Megan Reiners, Madison Stace,
and Megan Starry

Gary Campbell Communication Award: Nathan Enter

On Sunday, June 6th, eleven 8th graders graduated in the 9:30 a.m. service.

Their chosen theme was: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). The graduates were:

Nathan Enter

David Richard

Ben Fischer

Nadya Sherrard

Krista Gruetzmacher

Luke Sinclair

Jordan Marth

Madison Stace

Mary Meyer

Megan Starry

Megan Reiners

New Teacher: On May 15, 2010, the Lord led the assignment committee of our Wisconsin Synod to send a Call to Mr. Justin Krause of Watertown, Wisconsin to be our new 8th grade teacher and youth director. I have been in regular contact with him and I can tell you he and his wife-to-be are very excited to join our Salem family. Justin and his fiancé are getting married on July 17th in Milwaukee and will arrive sometime in late July. They will be living in the Salem, Woodbury parsonage! We wish all of God's blessings to the Krause's as they begin a new chapter in their lives!

Summer Schedule There are a number of important dates to remember for the summer. Those dates are as follows:

Vacation Bible School: June 21-25

Lumberjack Days Parade: July 25, 2010 1 p.m.

Grade 8 walks in the parade!

Visit with the Teachers: August 11, 2010 5-8 p.m.

Visit with the Teachers: August 19, 2010 12-3p.m.

Welcome Night: August 23, 2010 5:30-7 p.m.

First Day of School K-8: September 1, 2010 9 a.m.

First Day of School 3 yr olds: September 2, 2010 9 a.m.

Enrollment We continue to receive enrollment packets for the 2010-2011 school year. If you know of anyone looking for an excellent Christ-centered education, please refer them to the school office! We need you to help promote our school!



Have a blessed summer!

THANK YOU

A HUGE thank you to all who purchased flowers at the Flower sale we had in May. Thanks to your efforts, we were able to make \$300 for the lunch program and \$200 for the Altar Flower Fund. We hope everyone was satisfied with the quality of your flowers. Thank you, to everyone who helped by buying the “extra” flowers and giving them a home.

We hope to do this again next year!
Thank you again!!



Gun Safety

Gun safety classes will begin on Tuesday August 3, 2010. Registration for Gun Safety Classes will begin on Monday, July 5, 2010. Call Dean Pelnar at 651-735-8923 to register or for more information. Register early—Classes fill up fast!

HELP WANTED

We are taking applications for Bathroom Cleaners and for Lunchroom Assistants. These are temporary positions through the school year. We are looking for 2 people for each position.

If you are interested in applying, please see the Church Office for a job description & application.

All applications need to be in the church office by July 25. If you need more information, call the church office—651-439-7831

Worship Helpers

July, 2010

Ushers

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>9:30 am</u>
July 3	Swanson Family	
July 4	Plattner Team	Loss Team
July 10	Lillo Family	
July 11	Knefelkamp Team	Koester Team
July 17	Yanta Family	
July 18	Crowder Team	Wohlers Team
July 24	Sinclair Family	
July 25	Plattner Team	Raleigh Team
July 31	Koester Family	

Vestrymen

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>9:30 am</u>
July 4	V. Crowder	G Galler
July 11	D. Knefelkamp	J Wohlers
July 18	T Kopel	J Beaudry
July 25	V. Crowder	G Galler

Communion Helpers

July 10	T. Gruetzmacher
July 24	R. Zolldan

Greeters

	<u>8 am</u>	<u>9:30 a.m.</u>
July 4	Virgil & Janet Crowder	Darrel & Marlis Dreier
July 11	Delmar & Joyce Gehl	Gina Levy
July 18	Earl & Carole Plattner	Mike & Barb Miller
July 25	Lyle & Dorothy Doerr	Jennifer Roeller & Josh

Video Taping Crew

July 4	Joe Covelli
July 11	Quentin Johnson
July 18	Gary LeMay & Judy Zolldan
July 25	Mark & Nancee Prchal

Thanks For All Your Help!

Communicate to stay connected to your teenagers



Last month’s topic was helping your kids stay connected to God. This month, we turn to parent-teen communication, which is notorious for breaking down. But it doesn’t have to be that way. With some insight, strategy, and patience, you can keep the lines of communication open with your teenagers, who need you now more than ever.

Most importantly, you must be willing to work hard at really communicating. Because language is always changing, what adults say and what kids hear—and vice versa—sometimes aren’t close to the same thing. Be ready to hear things you aren’t so sure you want to hear, and listen without getting ahead of yourself when you don’t know how to respond.

Although it’s a cliché, communication really is a two-way street. The more honest and transparent you are, the more your kids will open up. Maintain an “open door” policy about any and all topics. Instead of pushing for information, share fun activities together so your teenagers feel comfortable about opening up. And assure them that you’ll keep what they say private.

Listening well to your teenagers shows that you respect their feelings and value their opinions, even if you don’t agree with them. Read on for helpful ideas about keeping the lines of communication open.

Question-asking guru Les Christie offers these tips for strong communication:

1. **Start with nonthreatening, easy, open-ended questions.** Ask questions that have more than one right answer, not closed questions, which are leading or limiting.
2. **Remember that feelings aren’t right or wrong; they just are.** Stifle the inclination to shut down, neutralize, or “solve” most negative feelings. Give kids the freedom to say things that may not make sense.
3. **Give kids enough time to respond.** Remember the advice in James 1:19 to be quick to listen and slow to speak. Don’t be afraid of silence. Learn from it.
4. **Ask follow-up questions without evaluating.** Vary your response pattern, using reflection, summarizing, probing, and comparing and contrasting.
5. **Don’t ask questions if you aren’t ready to listen.** Resist the temptation to stop listening when you anticipate what kids are about to say. Listen with your eyes and your heart.

(Group Magazine)



Check out these communication stats:

- In a survey of 20,000 Christian teenagers, most kids listed “hangout time with parents” as their number-two priority (behind developing a relationship with God).
(Group Magazine)
- On average, it takes eight seconds for our brains to process a question and formulate a response.
- Parents eager to stay in touch with their teenagers should consider learning how to send text messages. Nearly one out of three kids ages 12 to 17 sends more than 100 text messages a day. The average adult sends just 10 a day.
(Pew Research Center)
- In a study of 3,000 teenagers and their parents, 79% of parents interviewed thought they were communicating with their kids. But 81% of the teenagers said their parents weren’t communicating with them.
(University of Michigan)



Great Questions to Ask Your Kids

Connect with your kids by asking these questions:

1. What are the most important requirements for good communication? What often gets in the way of it?
2. What can happen when communication breaks down? How can people restore good give-and-take?
3. How would you rate our family's communication skills? What do we need to work on the most, and why?
4. How can you tell when someone's really listening to you? How does that make you feel, and how does it affect your relationship?



Focus on Prayer

PRAY THAT:

1. Communication lines stay open between you and your teenagers as they grow.
2. God will help you be an active listener who strives to understand what your kids are saying.
3. You can use good communication to resolve family conflicts.
4. God will help you effectively communicate your love—and his love—to your teenagers.

Verse of the Month

"Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!" (Romans 12:16)

God places people in families so they can nurture and support each other. One way we do this is by communicating our experiences, thoughts, and feelings. When family members feel free to express themselves and truly listen to one another, homes are more harmonious.

Going Deeper

Youth ministry veteran Jim Burns discusses strong communication at SimplyYouthMinistry.com:

The healthier the family, the more effective the communication. When communication fails, it usually isn't because of the content but rather the relationship. If we didn't grow up with good role models, we're at risk for passing poor communication skills to our kids. Use these strategies to build healthy communication and relationships.

Actively listen. Listening communicates value, significance, and worth. Good listening skills include giving someone your undivided attention, maintaining an accepting and open attitude, looking past words to notice tone and body language, using reflective and respectful questioning to clarify your understanding, and giving appropriate verbal responses to what's being communicated.

Learn and use love languages. In *The Five Love Languages*, Gary Chapman identifies ways people prefer to be loved: words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Most of us have a primary love language, but they all can be important to good communication and relationships.

Communicate honesty and integrity. The parent who tries to come across as perfect is making a big mistake. Believe it or not, apologies improve communication. Let your kids know you're human. Admitting your mistakes promotes sharing and removes barriers to real communication.

Work through conflicts. Conflict can either block communication or be a path to greater understanding. A natural inclination is to get defensive when conflicts arise. The better approach is being open to learn and assuming responsibility. Working through conflict takes greater emotional involvement, but it's the loving way to care for yourself and your teenagers.



MUSICSPOTLIGHT



Mainstream Artist

Background: Aguilera, 29, got her start in 1993 alongside Britney Spears on the squeaky clean *The New Mickey Mouse Club*. Her breakout hit was the 1999 song "Genie in a Bottle." Aguilera has become one of the decade's most successful artists, selling more than 42 million albums.

Albums: *Bionic* (2010), *Back to Basics* (2006), *Stripped* (2002)

What Parents Should Know: "Xtina" has abandoned any trace of modesty. With each new album and video, she pushes the limits of skin and sexuality. Motherhood has done nothing to stop that, as Aguilera's recent performance at the *MTV Movie Awards* proved.

What Aguilera Says: "People want to see a white, blonde girl stick to a safe, good-girl image. Not that I'm trying to be the bad girl; I just want to be real, to be myself. People don't really know who I am yet."

Discussion Questions: What's the allure of behaving badly? Have you ever been accused of being a goody-two-shoes? Was that a source of pride or pain? Explain. Read aloud Psalm 8:3-8. How do these verses affect your self-image? Why is a positive self-image important? What does our self-image say about our relationship with God?

Christian Artist

Background: Needham, 24, released his first album, *For Freedom*, independently in 2005. Then he was able to sign with Inpop and release his major-label debut in 2006. Needham's latest album—an infectious mix of rock, soul, blues, and hip-hop—rocketed to No. 1 on the Digital Album charts.

Albums: *Nightlights* (2010), *Not Without Love* (2008), *Speak* (2006)

What Parents Should Know: While other artists are trying to make more of themselves, Needham is committed to making less of himself—by glorifying and exalting God. He's also passionate about evangelism. While attending Texas A&M, Needham was co-leader of a street-ministry team.

What Needham Says: "God has chosen to make us participants in this great work of evangelism. ... We are sitting on the greatest and sweetest news in the universe, the only hope for a lost and dying world, and we're telling no one about it!"

Discussion Questions: Is it easy or difficult for you to talk about God? Explain. What makes you hesitant or eager to do so? Does it ever feel urgent for you to tell your friends about God? Why or why not? Read aloud 2 Peter 3:7-10. Why doesn't Jesus tell us when he'll return? Does that change your views about sharing your faith? Why or why not?

FILMWATCH

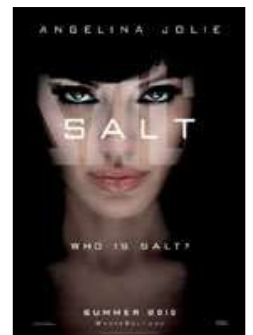
Movie: *Salt* (releases July 23)

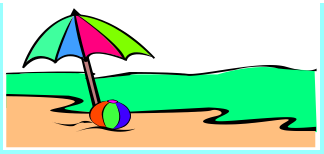
Genre: Action adventure

Rating: Not yet rated

Synopsis: CIA operative Evelyn Salt (Angelina Jolie) has just been accused of being a Russian spy. She has to use all her training and skills to prove her innocence, but the journey only clouds the mystery of Salt's identity.

Discussion Questions: Tell about a time you've been falsely accused of something. Did you protest the accusation? try to prove your innocence? Explain. Is there any way to keep people from lying about you? Why or why not? Read aloud Job 27:1-6. Is it possible—or realistic—to live by Job's standards? Why or why not? How might such a lifestyle affect what people think and say about you?





July 2010

Church & School 651-439-7831
Toll-Free 877-439-7831

Pastors' Office 651-439-5465
Fax 651-439-0035

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7 pm Prison Ministry	2	3 5 pm Worship
4 8 am Worship 9:30 am Worship	5	6 10 am Bible Support Group	7	8 7 pm Prison Ministry	9 11 am Irmgard Olson Memorial Service	10 5 pm Communion
11 8 am Communion 9:30 am Communion	12 SCRIP Orders are Due	13 10 am Bible Support Group 6:30 pm Council Committee Meetings	14 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	15 7 pm Prison Ministry	16	17 5 pm Worship <i>Contemporary</i>
18 8 am Worship 9:30 am Worship	19	20 10 am Bible Support Group 6:30 pm Church Council	21 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	22 7 pm Prison Ministry	23	24 5 pm Communion
25 8 am Communion 9:30 am Communion	26 SCRIP Orders are Due	27 10 am Bible Support Group	28 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	29 7 pm Prison Ministry	30	31 5 pm Worship