

Salem Ev. Lutheran Church & School

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

Visit our Website at www.salemlutheran.org

February, 2010

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS GOD?

Can not our hearts just ache when we see the pictures coming out of Haiti? The devastation and destruction are beyond our experience or even our imagination. Add to the sights, the sound and the smells and we would have memories we wish we could erase from our minds. Questions also are raised in the minds of people of where was God? What was He doing? Does this not challenge the very concept of a loving God?

All these questions could have been asked long ago during the first Holy Week. There was so much that was wrong, evil and unjust. We even hear our Savior cry out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" On February 17, Ash Wednesday, we will begin six weeks of our special Lenten services. Our theme for the weeks will be: Where in the World is God? We will be looking at where is God when there is suffering, when there is no justice, when only money matters. These are just some of the areas to be considered.

We want to give you a special invitation to join us for these midweek services. Would you also perhaps think of a friend to invite to these services? Service times are 4 and 7 pm with a free will offering supper served between the services. The proceeds from the suppers go to support special areas of ministry both locally and beyond.

May these services be a special blessing to you in your walk in life with your dear Savior.

Pastor Marcus Birkholz

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

The following are actions accomplished at the January 19, 2010, Council Meeting...

The minutes were not available by printing time.

Thank You's...

We received a thank you from the Mission to the Children Organization. We have hung their note on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

We also received a thank you from Beth Schmeling—that, too, is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Check them out!

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.

Financial Update...

Weekly Offerings

Dec 24/25	\$ 2,965.84	\$3,169.00 Missions
December 27	\$ 8,218.28	\$ 840.00 Missions
December 31	\$43,926.25	\$ 80.00 Missions
January 3	\$10,866.29	\$ 1,167.00 Missions
January 10	\$10,778.90	\$ 760.00 Missions
January 17	\$12,455.00	\$1,171.00 Missions

Offerings needed to meet budget each week
\$12,784.88 & \$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 WELS Women's Leadership Conference
will be held July 16 – 18, 2010, at the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, WI. For additional information go to WELS Women on the internet or call Karen Diethert 715-549-6519

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.

Women's Guild

The next Women's Guild Meeting is Thursday, February 4, 2010, beginning at 1:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Mary Ecker & Linda Wohlers are the hostesses.

All Women are invited to join us!



Altar Guild Update

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

Norma Koenig & Debbie Swanson are the February Crew.

Moms Bible Study

The 2nd & 4th Wednesdays are our days.
Play begins at 9 am and Bible study begins at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room.
All moms & their children are invited!



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

FEBRUARY 26 & 27.
AFTON HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

E-Mail _____

Cost \$235.00 Includes a copy of The Love Dare Book, Friday evening snacks & movie viewing, Friday evening lodging, continental breakfast, morning break refreshments, lunch, afternoon break refreshments and evening meal. Saturday evening lodging is available for an additional \$127.00.

Payable to Salem Lutheran MR and leave in the church office.

Registration deadline February 12, 2010

The Evangelism Committee and the Fellowship Committee will be sponsoring a Lincoln Dinner on Saturday, February 20, at 6 pm. All are welcome. Free-will offering will be taken. Following the dinner, there will be a presentation on Abraham Lincoln. If you have any questions, please contact Dave Genter.

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

Box Top Update...

Salem received \$1,159 for the box tops collected in 2009! It sure does add up when everyone saves a few here and there!!

Keep saving them for us!!

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, February 9, 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.

Diaper Drive

Once again the Caring Committee will be sponsoring a collection of diapers for the Life Care Center here in Stillwater and our WELS Christian Life Ministries Pregnancy Counseling Center in Little Canada. These collections are much appreciated and thanks to you, our drives have always been very successful. We will be starting Sunday, February 7 and ending Sunday February 28. Please place the diapers in the playpen which will be in the Narthex. They are asking for sizes 3, 4, 5, & 6 and baby wipes. Thanks for your help with this project!

Lenten Dinners

Ash Wednesday is on February 17. We will once again have services at 4 & 7 pm every Wednesday through Lent. We will also be serving supper from 4:45-6:30 pm. Our meal preparers will be as follows...

Feb 17	Boy Pioneers
Feb 24	Education Committee
March 3	Caring Committee
March 10	Youth & Council
March 17	WEW
March 24	8th Grade Class

We will have menus closer to the dates. Watch the bulletins for menus. We certainly hope you will join us!

LADIES we need your HELP!

The Women's Enrichment Weekend is scheduled for April 23 – 25. First, we would like to see a good turn out from our own congregation, we need your support. Second, we need women who enjoy singing to share your gift that weekend. Our theme this year is "Here Am I" send me, send me. It is all about being a servant and sharing our God given talents. Our congregation is so rich and blessed with musical talent, please contact Diane Light or Amy Snodie if you are interested.

NEW WEB PAGE. Please check out the Salem website www.salemlutheran.org/wew for the new Women's Enrichment Weekend page. Registration form and information will be found there.

Meal help available: The caring committee has ladies who would love to bring meals to people in temporary need of help. So if you are, or you know of, a member that could use some help call Janet Rider (651-439-0584) or Barb Miller (651-779-9581). We know how hard it can be for a new mom, someone just home from the hospital, etc.

Willing to help? The caring committee is looking for more people to add to our **meal provider** list. We are also looking for people willing to volunteer some **babysitting** or **drive** people to appointments. Email Janet Rider, jarider@earthlink.net, or call 651-439-0584 or call Barb Miller at 651-779-9581. A big thank you to all who helped out in 2009!

Travelers We are still collecting hotel toiletries for the for shelf and shower caps for our African Medical mission. Please put shower caps in the basket on the food shelf shelves so they can be separated easily.

**SALEM VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL**

**JUNE 21-25
9 AM-11:45 AM**

PRESCHOOL –GR 6

**\$20 PER CHILD, MAXIMUM
\$50 PER FAMILY
(IF REGISTERED BEFORE
MAY 15)**

School News

Calendar 2010-2011: I have been working on the calendar for 2010-2011 and it will contain 171 days. It will also include 4 faculty in-service days – these days will be half days of school with dismissal at 11:30 a.m. each of those days.

8th Grade Meetings: We have held three meetings in regards to the 8th grade class trip. We narrowed our class trip locations to: Duluth and Beacon Shores.

Preschool Open House/Kindergarten

Roundup: On Tuesday, January 26th, the Preschool Open House and Kindergarten Roundup will be held at Salem Lutheran School. We are looking at some possible higher numbers next year if the level of phone calls is any indication. If you can't make the Open House, please feel free to call the school office for further information. If you know of other families that might welcome information from our school, please let Mr. Graf know as soon as possible!

Hot Lunch Audit On February 4th, the state of Minnesota food service auditors will be at Salem to do an audit of our hot lunch program. We have a top-notch food service program at Salem and we should thank God for Dianna Rott and her professionalism and the high quality program she supervises.

Mr. Terry Graf, Principal

Pioneer News

Pioneer Wild Game Feed

The Pioneer Wild Game Feed has been scheduled for February 7th, 2010. This fundraiser helps support the Pioneer program, especially the winter campout. If you've never attended this activity, mark your calendar now. It's a great way to sample more than 25 dishes of wild game. There is always turkey and mashed potatoes for the less daring. If you are willing to donate game from your hunt, there are two ways for you to do this. You can simply contact Earl Plattner and arrange to get the game to him, or you can prepare it yourself and bring it to the Game Feed on the 8th. Either way please contact Earl, 715-294-3317, so he can plan for the feed. If you have questions in general, contact Mark Enter at 715-491-1992 (cell).

Pioneers will have only one meeting in February on the 3rd. This will be the Pine Car Cut-out night from 6:30-8 pm.

The Boy Pioneers will be serving the Ash Wednesday Dinner from 4:45-6:30 pm. They will be serving pancakes and fixing.

Pioneer Council will meet on Monday, Feb 22, at 7 pm.

Worship Helpers February, 2010

Ushers	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Feb 6	Yanta Family	
Feb 7	Knefelkamp Team	Loss Team
Feb 13	Lake Family	
Feb 14	Crowder Team	Koester Team
Feb 17 Ash Wed	4 pm Koester Team	7 pm Crowder Team
Feb 20	Swanson Family	
Feb 21	Plattner Team	Wohlers Team
Feb 24 Lent	4 pm Plattner Team	7 pm Knefelkamp Team
Feb 27	Lefto Family	
Feb 28	Knefelkamp Team	Raleigh Team

Vestrymen	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Feb 7	T. Gruetzmacher	G. Galler
Feb 14	T. Kopel	J. Wohlers
Feb 17	4 pm J. Wohlers	7 pm G. Galler
Feb 21	V. Crowder	J. Beaudry
Feb 24	4 pm OPEN	7 pm J. Beaudry
Feb 28	T. Gruetzmacher	OPEN

Communion Helpers

Feb 13	Kevin Lillo
Feb 27	Matt Koester

Greeters

	<u>8 am</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Feb 7	Gary LeMay & Judy Zolldan	Keith & Connie LeMire
Feb 14	Terry & Sheryl Graf	Bill & Sandy Galler
Feb 21	Dave & Mary Richert	Brian & Tori Novitch
Feb 28	OPEN	Wayne & Vivian Swanson

Video Taping Crew

Feb 7	Mark & Nancee Prchal
Feb 14	Joe Covelli
Feb 21	Quentin Johnson
Feb 28	Gary LeMay & Judy Zolldan

Thanks For All Your Help!