

# Salem Lutheran Church



# Bell

December 2025

Rooted in Christ to love, grow & serve

## Children & Youth Christmas Worship Sunday, December 21 | 9am

Give the gift of your presence and join us as our Sunday school children and youth lead us in 'pre' Christmas worship.

## Christmas Eve Worship December 24 | 6pm

Celebrate the Good News of Jesus' birth in word, song, candlelight and holy communion!

## Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 28 | 9am

Join us for a joy-filled service of story and song as we celebrate Jesus' birth.

## Confirmation / Youth Group Day & Time Change

We will meet Sundays from 4pm - 6pm instead of Wednesdays.

**NO Confirmation/Youth Group:  
Sunday, December 28th**

All 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Welcome

## Sunday School

**Sunday, December 14 from 11am - 1:30pm**

This month's Bible Story & Lesson:  
Jesus' Birth

All preschool - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students welcome. Volunteers are always needed preparing and serving lunch (12pm). Please call the church office to sign up for a specific month.



## We're Hiring

### Ministry Coordinator Position

(This position replaces the Office Administrator Position) Responsible for week day hospitality, operational leadership, ministry coordination, and support of the life and mission of Salem Lutheran Church.

Wages based on experience and qualifications. Part time position (23 hours/week). Job Description and Application can be picked up at Salem or emailed upon request.

Return application with your resume by January 1, 2026

## Food Shelf

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed that SNAP funds, WIC and free school lunch programs, will not be funded as of Nov. 1 due to the government shut down. Federal employees are also without a paycheck. In addition, increased food prices, growing inflation rates, and slowing wage growth have put a significant financial strain on Minnesotans. Which means many of our neighbors need our help.

**The Food Shelf is in need of FUNDS and YOUR HELP to serve people experiencing food insecurity and hunger.**

If you can contribute physically, we invite you to join us Wednesdays from 9a to 3p - or whatever time you can give. To contribute financially, you can give directly to the Longville Area Food Shelf: P.O. Box 308, Longville, MN 56655, or designate your donation through Salem, memo: LAFS.

## 1st Sunday of the Month

### ELCA World Hunger Noisy Offering

Bring or give whatever change you have in your pockets, purse, or piggy bank and throw it in the buckets during the welcome at worship!

November's total was \$67.

## Salem Community Meal

**Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> | 5pm - 6pm**

No Cost | Donations Appreciated

Menu: Danish Dinner

**Everyone is welcome!**

## December Worship Volunteers

### December 7 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Ushers/Greeters	Doris Schmidt, Barb McCuskey
Lay Reader	Cris Smith
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish, Beth Tobiason
Wine/Grape Juice	Jo Gaffey, Laura Flohaug
Communion Care	Jo Gaffey
Sound Technician	Egon Overgaard
Video Technicians	Mike & Hope Olson
Money Counters	Jim Fladmoe, Greg Peters
Fellowship Servers	Fred & Cris Smith

### December 14 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Ushers/Greeters	Beth Tobiason, Laura Flohaug
Lay Reader	Keith Lorensen
Bread Servers	Pastor Dave Smith, Fred Smith
Wine/Grape Juice	Cris Smith, Linda Bechtold
Communion Care	Laura Flohaug
Sound Technician	Bob Vaughn
Video Technicians	Bob & Nan Ladehoff
Money Counters	Bob Ladehoff, Don Falls
Fellowship Servers & Treats	Greg & Diane Peters

### December 21 | 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Ushers/Greeters	Roger & Linda Bechtold
Lay Reader	Colleen Moravek
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish, Janna Williams
Wine/Grape Juice	Jan Stadtherr, Diane Peters
Communion Care	Diane Peters
Sound Technician	Jim Fladmoe
Video Technician	Mitch Jorgenson, Doug Williams
Money Counters	Judy Saxerud, Randy Swanson
Fellowship Servers & Treats	Angie Lyle & Family

### December 24 | Christmas Eve | 6:00pm

Ushers/Greeters	Scott & Allison Magnus
Lay Reader	Mark Wrucke
Bread Servers	Pastor Trish, Mitch Jorgenson
Wine/Grape Juice	Emma Jorgenson Nadja Jorgneson
Communion Care	Mitch Jorgenson
Sound Technician	Pat Wrucke
Video Technicians	Bob & Nan Ladehoff
Money Counters	TBD

### December 28 | 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

Ushers/Greeters	Greg & Diane Peters
Lay Readers	Cris Smith, Garry Gaffey
Sound Technician	Pat Wrucke
Video Technicians	Ron Stadtherr, Mark Wrucke
Money Counters	Mike Meagher, Mark Wrucke
Fellowship Servers & Treats	Flohaug Team

## December Birthdays

2	Harriet Mouw
2	Brad Ferris
4	Travis Wheeler
5	Sandy Elison
6	Colleen Moravek
8	Lauren Hardinger
10	Terry Daudt
10	Alice Bruhjell
11	Nan Ladehoff
12	Randy Swanson
13	Craig Anderson
15	Shari Pretzer
16	Gail Hanson
17	Sandy Boring
18	Sam Nordstrom
18	Brent Weaver
19	Curtis Haflund
19	Doug Longnecker
24	Tom Dollins
24	Judy Bogard
24	Trish Jorgenson
24	Geri Staley
29	Terry Rosen
30	Dylan Daudt



## December Anniversaries

1	Craig & Jamie Riendeau
17	Tim and Jan Marr
18	Ed and Judith Olson
28	Ron and Jan Stadtherr
31	Denny and Diane Ploeger



## Backup Church Accountant Needed

Salem is looking for a volunteer backup church accountant (no experience necessary). Salem's new church accountant, Chris Ricketts will provide training and this important work can be done remotely as long as you have a computer and internet access. The training can also be done remotely. If you'd like more information about what the position entails, Chris can fill you in. Contact the church office at [salem@arvig.net](mailto:salem@arvig.net) or 218-363-2011 for Chris's contact information.



# DECEMBER

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 1pm Busy Needles	2 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	3 6pm Choir Rehearsal	4 9:30am Community Meal Meeting	5 9am Bone Builders	6 8am Bread Ministry Baking
	<b>Pastor Trish Day Off</b>					
7 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group	8 9:30am Men's Bible Sharing 1pm Busy Needles	9 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	10 5pm Community Meal 6pm Choir Rehearsal	11 9:30am Worship Ministry Team (WMT) 3pm Finance Team	12 9am Bone Builders	13
	<b>Pastor Trish Medical Leave - Surgery December 8<sup>th</sup> then off work through December 14<sup>th</sup></b>					
14 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 11am - 1:30pm Sunday School 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group	15 1pm Busy Needles	16 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	17 6pm Choir Rehearsal	18 4pm Servant Leadership Council (SLC)	19 9am Bone Builders	20
	22 9:30am Men's Bible Sharing 1pm Busy Needles	23 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study 4pm Faith Formation	24 6pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Office Closed	26 9am Bone Builders	27
	29 1pm Busy Needles	30 9am Bone Builders 9:30am Text Study	31			
	<b>Pastor Trish Vacation December 26 - January 1, 2026</b>					
28 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 4pm - 6pm Confirmation & Youth Group					<b>Pastor Trish Vacation</b>	

## Honoring our Loved Ones

At this time of the year, we often look for ways to honor our loved ones, and the Salem Endowment Fund is a great way to remember people who are important to us. It is literally a gift that keeps on giving. You can support these funds by writing a check to Salem, memo: Endowment Legacy Fund or Education Scholarship Fund.



## Salem's Financial Update

Salem Members adopted a 2025 General Fund budget of \$254,166. As of October 31, 2025, our General Fund giving should be at a year-to-date total of \$211,805. As of October 31, 2025, our year-to-date actual General Fund giving was \$199,839, which is \$11,966 short of our goal. Recognizing our challenges, you have responded with increased giving over the past few months. Salem has continued supporting a frozen budget by paying only critical operating expenses. This has been true for the past 4 plus years with ministry teams finding creative ways to save money and do tasks while limiting spending. **As a result, on October 31, 2025, we were only behind (\$1,452.51).** With the winter season upon us, some of our expenses increase which stretches our income dollars further.

Please help us meet the commitment we made together at last year's annual meeting by prayerfully considering tithing (keeping 90% of your income while giving 10% of your income to the ministry God does through Salem) and setting up electronic giving to ensure your support will be here if you are gone. Another challenge might be to evaluate what extras in your spending you might "freeze" and give that amount in your Sunday offering. Also, please consider filling out the 2026 Pledge Card (a copy of which is attached) as one aspect of our discipleship and life together, as we grow more fully in our identity as baptized children of God.

## Socktober-venember-cember Drive

Donate NEW WARM ADULT-SIZED SOCKS, or MONEY (and we will purchase socks for you), for people in our area experiencing homelessness. Help us reach our goal of 200 pairs of socks! (memo: Sock Drive). We currently have 100 pairs of socks.

**Donation Deadline: December 14**

## 2025 End of Year Giving Financial Statements via Email

In January, Salem's Financial Secretary prepares our yearly giving statements. Each year we spend monies on envelopes, paper, ink and stamps to mail each statement. With rising costs, we are hoping to email those statements to anyone who has an email address. **Please send your current email to [salem@arvig.net](mailto:salem@arvig.net), include your name, physical address, and email address in the text body.**

## Lutheran World Relief School Kit Assembly

Congratulations and thank you! Salem completed assemble of 108 School Kits on Nov 16!

## November Announcements



**Celebration of Life**  
November 15, 2025  
Avis Lone Savre  
4/26/1930 - 10/28/25  
Salem Lutheran Church, Longville

**Retirement Celebration**  
Char Olson, Choir Director  
of 31 years.  
Char's last Sunday and Retirement Party were held November 23, 2025.



**Annual Veterans Supper**  
Salem served 230 people for the Veteran's dinner with generous donations from:  
Crow Wing Power,  
Longville Community Foundation,  
Longville Women of Today,  
Longville Lions, and Thrivent

## Fall Clean-Up Property Team Thank You

Salem's Property Team sends a huge "Thank You" to everyone who came to help with the fall church yard clean-up on Monday November 3rd. Your work efforts was much appreciated, and the fall cleanup was completed within two hours.



## New Office Hours Reminder

**Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm**

**Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm**

Pastor Trish will continue to work various hours and if you want or need access to church or Pastor Trish, please call and schedule at 320-248-9479 (PT cell) or 218-363-2011 (Church Office).

## Music in the Park Help Needed

After another wonderful season of Music organized and hosted by Music in the Park, we say "Thank You" to the amazing, dedicated members of the Music in the Park Team. They are looking for new members on their team as some have decided to try their hand at different ministry opportunities. Please let the church office know if you might be interested in talking with any of the MITP Team members about this fun opportunity.

## Worship Volunteers Needed

We are in need of Usher & Greeters, Lay Readers, Bread Servers, Wine/Grape Juice Servers, Communion Care, and Fellowship Servers & Treat Bringers. Please call the church office to sign up and help keep our worship services and hospitality a gift we all share.

## Year End Giving Opportunity

Making year-end decisions about how to use the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA? Gifting RMD funds directly from your IRA to a charitable organization offers you a tax advantage.\* Please consider Salem's General Fund as a possible recipient if you are still making these decisions and do good things for yourself and for Salem.

*\*Consult your tax advisor about how to maximize this benefit.*

## ELCA World Hunger Good Gifts Christmas Shopping

Our annual Good Gifts Tree is up and loaded with options for your Christmas shopping needs. To purchase chicks, bees, goats, pigs, etc. simply follow the instructions found near the tree, pick the appropriate ornament or card, and know that you are giving a gift that gives life and hope to those experiencing hunger and poverty around the world and in our own backyard.



## Online or Electronic Giving

Give online at [salemlongville.org/donations/9022](http://salemlongville.org/donations/9022) or see the attached electronic giving applications, fill them out, follow the directions, and ensure your support is here even if you can't be.

Thank you in advance for supporting the ministry God has called us to through Salem - our beloved community in Christ.

## Salem Accounts and Password Information Needed

If you have knowledge of accounts and/or passwords that Salem has or should have, please contact the church office. A password vault is being secured in order to maintain all accounts, usernames, and passwords for Salem subscriptions, devices, etc.

## In Lieu of Poinsettias or Flowers

Give a gift in honor or memory of a loved one this Christmas that continues to give long after live poinsettias or flowers have faded.

Was your loved one a farmer? Give an ELCA Good Gift related to farming. Does your dad love to fish?

Give an entire fish farm or a share in a fish farm.

There are so many options, you are sure to find the perfect way to remember or honor your loved one and know that your gift will bring life to others who are in need. **Here's how:**

Contact the church office with your designated dollar amount (specify specific gifts i.e. bees, goats, etc.), the name of your loved one, and if it is in memory or honor (names will be printed in our Christmas Eve bulletin).

## Salem Youth Christmas Service Project

Our youth have been studying the Gospels and recently learned the story of the Samaritan woman meeting Jesus at a well (John 4:4-42). Upon completion of the story, we also talked about the fact the 4.4 billion people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water. They decided to do a fundraiser to raise money for 5 water filters and 5 irrigation systems through ELCA Good Gifts. They are hoping to raise \$650.00 by Christmas Eve by simply asking people to give. No gimmicks, no candy or popcorn to purchase, no event to attend, nor items to bid on or buy...just simply asking for your support and monetary donations. No amount is too small nor too large to help!

To donate please contact Pastor Trish and she will have one of our youth get in touch with you. Thank you in advance for your generosity in support of this faith-full mission!

Salem Lutheran Church, Longville MN  
**2026 Pledge Card Opportunity**

Pledge Card commitments can be a helpful tool for organizations, whose operating expenses and staffing of events and activities, are dependent solely on the generous donations of members' time, talent, & resources.

**A.J. Thomas of the Joyful Giving Group states that, "giving has nothing to do with the financial needs of the church...but is a spiritual discipline and an aspect of our relationship with God...we do not give to the Church, but rather to God through the Church."**

We recognize that Pledge Cards may not be your 'thing' and that is ok. Yet, others may see this as way to help their relationship with God grow in a new or fuller way. Please:

- Prayerfully consider whether or not this is something God is nudging you toward.
- Prayerfully consider what dollar amount you pledge to give to Salem's General Fund (Operating Expenses) in 2026.
- Prayerfully consider Electronic Giving as an option to ensure that regardless of worship attendance, your financial support is faithfully given.
- Prayerfully consider how you will give of your time, experience, and talents to the ministry God calls us to through Salem.

Between September 14, 2025 and December 31, 2025, please fill out the Pledge Card, cut along the dotted line and place the bottom portion in the designated box on the usher's table. As part of our Stewardship growth and focus we will celebrate God's amazing generosity in our lives and our box full of promises (pledges) at a stewardship celebration called

**Winter's Promise - Sunday January 25, 2026 (Worship & Potluck Fellowship).**

*If necessary pledge cards will be opened by Salem's Financial Secretary and as always, kept in the strictest confidence and presented anonymously. We know pledge card commitments are not always a reliable source of projected income and our commitments are between you and God.*

.....  
**2026 Pledge Card Opportunity**

Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and will give per (circle one) Year | Month | Week.

Pledge to begin Electronic Giving as of January 2026.\_\_\_\_

Pledge to continue Electronic Giving as of January 2026 but increase this giving to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and will give per (circle one) Year | Month | Week.

Pledge to give of my time, experience, or talents to the ministry God calls us to through Salem.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



First National Bank North  
P.O. Box 520  
Walker, MN 56484

## Authorization Agreement for ACH/Transfer Transactions

### Form for First National Customers

I (we) hereby authorize First National Bank North to initiate **debit/credit** entries to my (our) account(s) held at First National Bank North, and **debit/credit** the account at the financial institution indicated below. I (we) further authorize adjusting entries (reversals) to correct errors, if any. I (we) agree that I (we) shall indemnify and hold harmless First National Bank North from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, causes of action, and liability from this authorization. This authority will remain in effect until I (or either of us) notify the bank in writing at least **5 banking days** prior to the next settlement date. I (we) acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law. I (we) agree to be bound by NACHA Operating Rules. I (we) acknowledge First National Bank North has the right to audit my compliance with NACHA Operating Rules and terminate or suspend this agreement for breach of NACHA Operating Rules.

**New Transfer**     **Change to an existing ACH/Transfer**

Fill Out

FNBN Account Holder Information	
Customer Name	Individual ID Number
Account Number	
Personal or Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Account <input type="checkbox"/> Business Account
Account Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Checking <input type="checkbox"/> Savings <input type="checkbox"/> Loan
Debit/Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Debit <input type="checkbox"/> Credit

Fill Out

Account Holder Information ACH/Transfer going to/coming from		
Customer Name	Financial Institution	Individual ID Number
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church	Church, Non-Profit	
Routing Number	Account Number	
091209755	Account Ending 5051	
Personal or Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Account <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Account    Non-Profit	
Account Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Checking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Savings	
Debit/Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Debit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit	

Sign & Date

Transfer Information		
Amount	Frequency of Transfer	Start Date/Day of Transfer
If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or bank holiday, this transfer will automatically be made on the following business day. First National Bank North will make every effort to complete this transfer unless circumstances beyond our control prevent the transfer, despite reasonable precautions that we have taken. All terms and conditions of your account agreement apply to this agreement.		

Treasurer Sign

Customer Authorization		
SIGNATURE OF FNBN CUSTOMER	PRINTED NAME	DATE
TWO PARTY TRANSFER		
SIGNATURE OF 2 <sup>ND</sup> PARTY	PRINTED NAME	DATE
Employee Name	Date Form Received	

TERMINATE			
SIGNATURE	DATE	PRINTED NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE



First National Bank North  
 P.O. Box 520  
 Walker, MN 56484

## Authorization Agreement for ACH/Transfer Transactions

### Customers of Other Banks - Non-First National Customers

I (we) hereby authorize First National Bank North to initiate **debit/credit** entries to my (our) account(s) held at First National Bank North, and **debit/credit** the account at the financial institution indicated below. I (we) further authorize adjusting entries (reversals) to correct errors, if any. I (we) agree that I (we) shall indemnify and hold harmless First National Bank North from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, causes of action, and liability from this authorization. This authority will remain in effect until I (or either of us) notify the bank in writing at least **5 banking days** prior to the next settlement date. I (we) acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law. I (we) agree to be bound by NACHA Operating Rules. I (we) acknowledge First National Bank North has the right to audit my compliance with NACHA Operating Rules and terminate or suspend this agreement for breach of NACHA Operating Rules.

**New Transfer**     **Change to an existing ACH/Transfer**

FNBN Account Holder Information			
Customer Name Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church		Individual ID Number	
Account Number Account Ending 5051      Routing 091209755			
Personal or Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Account	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Account	
Account Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Checking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Savings	<input type="checkbox"/> Loan
Debit/Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Debit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit	
Account Holder Information ACH/Transfer going to/coming from			
Customer Name		Financial Institution	Individual ID Number
Routing Number		Account Number	
Personal or Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Account	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Account	
Account Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Checking	<input type="checkbox"/> Savings	
Debit/Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Debit	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit	
Transfer Information			
Amount	Frequency of Transfer		Start Date/Day of Transfer
If this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or bank holiday, this transfer will automatically be made on the following business day. First National Bank North will make every effort to complete this transfer unless circumstances beyond our control prevent the transfer, despite reasonable precautions that we have taken. All terms and conditions of your account agreement apply to this agreement.			
Customer Authorization			
SIGNATURE OF FNBN CUSTOMER		PRINTED NAME	DATE
TWO PARTY TRANSFER			
SIGNATURE OF 2 <sup>ND</sup> PARTY		PRINTED NAME	DATE
Employee Name		Date Form Received	
TERMINATE			
SIGNATURE	DATE	PRINTED NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE

Fill Out

Treasurer Sign | Sign & Date

When Complete, Please turn into Salem Church Office