Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
2702 1st Street Mahtowa, MN 55707
Pr. Jim Raisanen 218-838-3690
Sunday Worship begins at 9:30
Send articles/info to Lori Carlson 218.213.5883
email missloricarlson@gmail.com

Greetings in the Lord! I read a humorous story about a gambler who rubbed Aladdin's lamp and was confronted by a genie who told him he could have one wish. The gambler proceeded to ponder over the gracious offer a few moments and requested tomorrow's newspaper today. The wish was quickly granted. The gambler was filled with glee as he hastily turned to the sheet with the results of the racing track. Now he could dash down to the track and place bets on sure winners and he would be filthy rich indeed.

But before leaving he glanced over the stock market report in order to do some quick trading since he knew the trends in advance. The smirk of satisfaction on his face was short-lived, for opposite the stock market report was the obituary column, and heading the list was his name. Now all his expected gains seemed like nothing. What good was it all when he would not be around tomorrow?

Bottom line. . .we should live for today. The great play is on. Every day is another block of time in which we live—to love—to serve—to weep and laugh. You cannot employ today only to set the stage for tomorrow. When you truly analyze it, I have to conclude that we live best when we live fully in the compartment called today.

Jesus had something to say to this issue: "Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious about itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day."

So for today I invite you to share your memories. Hug and support one another. And help each other down the road of life. I am wishing the best for each of you. Pastor Jim

Mark your calendar for our
ANNUAL MEATBALL SUPPER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
4:00 – 7:00 P.M.
There will also be a silent auction.
See attached flyer for details.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets October 4 & 18 during worship. Leaders, assistants, & snacks are always appreciated.

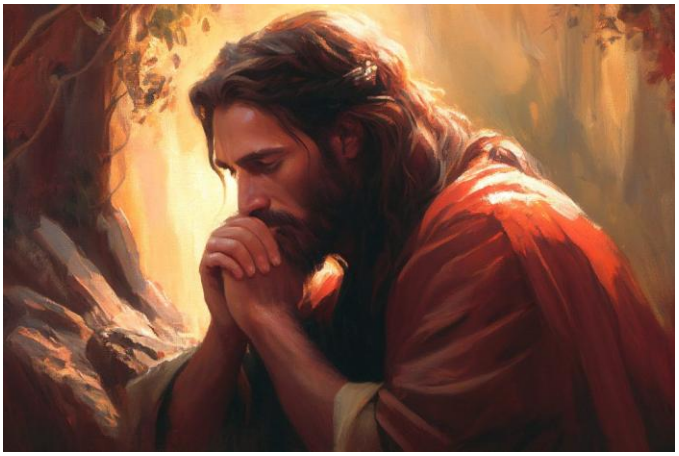
CONFIRMATION CLASS meets
Wednesday, October 21 & 28
beginning at 6:00 p.m.
If you know of any other students who would like to join our confirmation class, please let Pastor Jim or Jody know.

SOUL SISTERS will meet
After worship on OCTOBER 18.
PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet
after worship on OCTOBER 25

MISSION STATEMENT - "Welcoming all, growing in faith and serving with love"

VISION STATEMENT - "To be a church where everyone finds belonging, faith grows through shared experiences, and fellowship strengthens both our congregation and the community we serve"

SALEM HALL RENTAL
Salem Hall is available for events.
Our rates have been updated to:
$100 for 4 hours
$200 for a full day
Contact Jody Eller at 218.355.0864 (call or text)



Pray for: **Our Elders; Catherine, Iris, Betty & Sandy. Healing for; Pastor Carl, Joey, Grace, Barb, Mary, Lori; all those grieving lost loved ones; those in need of God's comfort and peace.**

Next church COUNCIL MEETING is Monday, October 19, beginning at 6:30 p.m.
Council members are Shari Lowden, Mike Lowden, Milissa Soukkala, Donita Korpela and Justin Grill. Please them know if you have any questions or concerns.

THREE OPEN COUNCIL POSITIONS
For 2027

Vice President, Secretary, At Large
Please prayerfully consider filling one of these positions. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on January 24. Let a Council member know if you would like to be nominated.

MEN'S CLUB
meets on **Wednesday mornings** at church with **coffee and conversation beginning at 9:00 am and Bible Study or devotions beginning at 9:30 am**. This is a great time for fellowship.

AA meets every Monday at the Hall

UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORIES ARE AVAILABLE

ARE YOU FEELING INSPIRED & CREATIVE?

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to put together the weekly slideshow for worship. Please let Shari or Jody know if you are interested.

MOOSE LAKE AREA FOOD SHELF
The Food Shelf located at 308 Elm Ave is open Fridays from 8:30 to noon
Donations may be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 11:00 or at Salem Church any Sunday at worship time.

UP-COMING EVENTS

THANKSGIVING SERVICE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 6:30

ALL SAINTS' DAY
NOVEMBER 1

ADVENT BEGINS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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September giving	**$3,624**
Other deposit	**$2,100**
Budgeted monthly giving/needs	**$8.061.25**
September average attendance	**40**

Salem Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 17, 2026 at 6:30pm

Present: Pastor Jim, Shari Lowden, Mike Lowden, Jody Eller, Justin Grill, Donita Korpela, Milissa Soukkala

1. Called to order at 6:31 pm
2. Open with Prayer and Devotions by Pastor Jim
3. Agenda for August 17th, 2026 **M- Donita, S- Mike, Passed**
4. Minutes from July 27th, 2026 **M- Mike, S- Justin, Passed**
5. Pastor's Report
    1. Jim attended a meeting at the Synod office
    2. Two baptisms are set up for 9/20/26
    3. Pastor's dates off: August 30th, September 27th
6. Treasurer's Report
    1. Review the Profit & Loss for July and year to date. Continue to have a deficit. Review of the CD's at the bank as they are coming due soon, we will keep the CD intact. **M-Pr. Jim, S- Milissa, Passed**
7. Property Report
    1. Justin reached out to Kiminski paving for the parking lot options.
    2. Glass came in for the basement window,
    3. Complete staining on the west side of the hall after pressure washing.
8. Soul Sisters Report
    1. Soul sisters will bring treats for game night, Sept 1st @ 6:30pm
    2. Rally Sunday will be a potluck
    3. Meatball supper date will be October 24th, 2026
    4. December 5th, Lefse Fest with bake sale. Milissa has volunteered to attempt to get any silent auction items.
9. Old Business
    1. Fair Service went well. Offering went to the ML food shelf.
    2. Open council positions for annual meeting- Must publicize at least 90 days before the annual meeting (10/26/26) & list of candidates publicized at least 30 days before (12/25/26).
        A. Mike 2nd term & VP
        B. Donita's chair & Secretary
        C. Milissa's chair
    3. Confirmation & Sunday school plans : in need of another volunteer to ensure the building is open and all kids get picked up.
    4. Game night 9/1/26
    5. Rally Sunday and new member Sunday 9/20/26
    6. Community Events with Covenant church, They are going to be starting up their Wednesday night meals.
    7. Logistics of getting giving/budget information for newsletter. This could be a line item for monthly income/budget.
    8. Social Media- Salem's website has been updated recently. We have had 40+ views on this recently. Working on the Facebook page access.
10. New Business
    1. Next Council Meeting September 21st, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Adjournment: 7:27 pm, M- Pr. Jim, S- Milissa, Passed

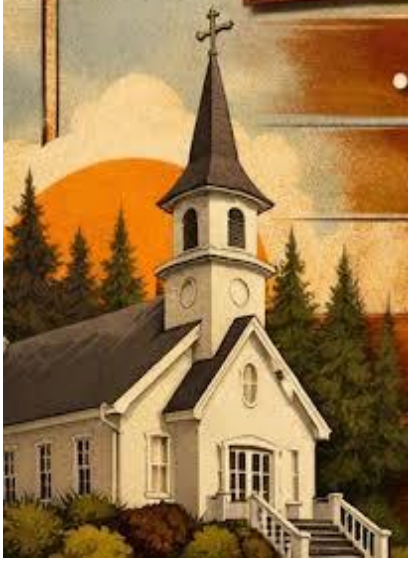
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

MEATBALL SUPPER!

Saturday, October 24, 2026

$15 Adults • $10 Youth (Ages 7-17)

- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Rutabaga & Green Beans
- Fresh Baked Rolls
- Homemade Pie & Dessert



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!