

# Salem Lutheran Church



FOLLOWING JESUS,  
SHARING COMPASSION,  
COVERED BY GRACE



## All Are Welcome



Join us at Salem Lutheran Church  
for a Cross Generational Event!

What: Feast and Fun Surprises to  
Kick off the Season of Lent –  
Serving Pancakes and Jambalaya

When: February 15 during  
Fellowship at 11a.m.



The Sunday School Children will be collecting a "Noisy Offering" on non-Communion Sundays beginning on February 8. The offering will go toward a ministry of their choice to be shared with the congregation at a later date. Please bring your spare change the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month!



# Salem Lutheran Church

## January 13th 2026 Minutes

**President:** Sandi Sickels    **Treasurer:** Barb Kenyon  
**V. President:** Tim Kinyon    **Secretary:** Sherri Nissen

**Members:** Jewel Baseley, Thom Guzman, Chris Lane, Linda Huffman, Sherri Boschee, Daniel Clausen, Sheila Clausen, Sandi Sickels, Sherri Nissen, Tim Kenyon, Barb Kenyon

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Devotions: Pastor Jim

The meeting was called to order by President, Sandi Sickels with the following members in attendance: Jewel Baseley, Daniel Clausen, Sheila Clausen, Thom Guzman, Linda Huffman, Barb Kenyon, Tim Kenyon Pastor Jim, and Sherri Nissen.

Absent: Sherri Boschee and Chris Lane

M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Daniel Clausen to approve the agenda

M/S/C by Thom Guzman and Daniel Clausen to approve the December minutes as amended under January benevolence going towards Creston Schools family account food deficits.

Treasurer's Report: Barb Kenyon

M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Linda Huffman to receive the Treasurers' report

M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Barb Kenyon to approve Pastor's expenses \$180.13 for mileage reimbursement plus phone.

Pastor's Report: See attached report from Brenna– Page 6

Old Business:

a) Continuing Resolution: M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Daniel Clausen to ratify the Continuing Resolution with the following change: The practices listed above are aspirational and a vision of discipleship in which member mutually "provoke one another to love and good deeds" under grace, following Hebrew 10:24.

b) Annual meeting – Jan. 25 (ASP meal) Feb 1 Snow date. If ASP cannot do the meal, we will plan a potluck.

c) M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Jewel Basely to approve the Annual Meeting agenda

d) M/S/C by Thom Gutzman and Daniel Clausen to approve the 2026 Budget Proposal: it will be like the 2025 budget. Pastor's salary will increase by 3% as recommended by the executive committee. Brenna will receive \$0.50 an hr. increase, and the keyboard/organist will increase from \$60 to \$65 per Sunday.

e) Pro Kleen Services: table for next month

New Business:

- a) February Benevolence: M/S/C by Pastor Jim and Linda Huffman to go towards Creston Schools family accounts food deficits.
- b) Synod Assembly Reps: April 17-18 at Sergeant Bluff, IA Thom Gutzman is interested in attending. Synod Model is currently allowing council to appoint attendees, if not determined by the annual meeting. M/S/C by Sherri Nissen and Sheila Clausen
- c) Use of Fellowship Hall Feb. 8 – 14 by Friends of the Library: M/S/C by Sheila Clausen and Thom Gutzman to honor the Parkinson's group time and date commitment. They will be allowed to get a key Feb. 9th at 3:30pm.
- d) Bell storage and insurance: Tim has notified the insurance company and is waiting for their response. Per Executive Committee, the NW room in the basement currently used to store garage sale items will be cleaned out for bell storage, changing the knob to a locking one, and the property committee will remove the remaining pews in the old children's choir area. M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Daniel Clausen.
- e) M/S/C by Tim Kenyon and Jewel Basely to approve the Worship and Music protocol presented by Sheila Clausen, chair, and recommended by the committee regarding services when an accompanist is not available. Per protocol we have enough people available, and can use licensed music, etc.

Committee Reports:

- i. Christian Education: They are planning a Pancake breakfast (Sunday Feb. 15) and other activities for Mardi Gra/Fat Tuesday before Ash Wednesday Feb. 17.
- ii. Church Property: Will meet 01/20/26 continue getting restroom bids
- iii. Outreach Ministry: Will meet 01/18/26
- iv. Worship & Music: The bells have been set up, and they are ready to practice. They are planning Lenten services with a soup supper Ash Wednesday. They are also planning to meet with Altar guild to set up responsibilities.
- v. Memorial Committee: no meeting
- vi. Stewardship: Personal notes to giving families are complete and will be part of the giving statement.
- vii. Endowment: No meeting
- viii. Long Range Planning: They have been meeting with potential new members.
- ix. Other: Jewel shared a scan code that we could add to our website: How can we pray for you? This would allow people needing prayer to add their request. Thom shared a Welcome sign he saw when in Ecuador welcoming all individuals.

The next executive council meeting will be February 10th at 4:00.

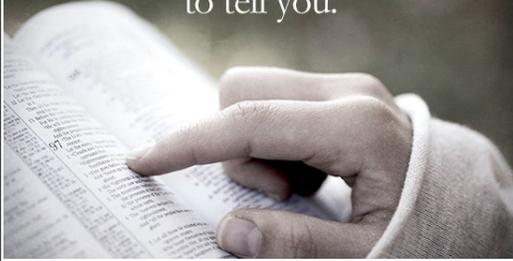
Regular council meeting will be Tuesday, February 17th at 5:30 pm. Pastor will lead opening devotions.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sherri Nissen, Council Secretary

Reduce your stress level by taking time to unplug from the world, open your Bible, and listen to what God has to tell you.



- 1st Exodus 7-9
- 2nd Exodus 10-12
- 3rd Exodus 13-15
- 4th Exodus 16-18
- 5th Exodus 19-21
- 6th Exodus 22-24
- 7th Exodus 25-27
- 8th Exodus 28-29
- 9th Exodus 30-32
- 10th Exodus 33-35
- 11th Exodus 36-38
- 12th Exodus 39-40
- 13th Leviticus 1-4
- 14th Leviticus 5-7
- 15th Leviticus 8-10
- 16th Leviticus 11-13
- 17th Leviticus 14-15
- 18th Leviticus 16-18
- 19th Leviticus 19-21
- 20th Leviticus 22-23
- 21st Leviticus 24-25
- 22nd Leviticus 26-27
- 23rd Numbers 1-2
- 24th Numbers 3-4
- 25th Numbers 5-6
- 26th Numbers 7
- 27th Numbers 8-10
- 28th Numbers 11-13



- Wyatt Hitz 11th
- Dennis Hanson 12th
- Michael Richardson 17th
- Chuck Western 17th
- Roxi Peterson 19th
- Barb Abildtrup 26th
- Claudia Peppers 28th
- Phyllis Keuter 4th



- Chuck & Jean Western 4th
- Chuck & Nancy Taylor 24th

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servant, and give your power of healing to those who minister to his needs, that he may be strengthened in his weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Larry Kimball
- Dorothy Vanella
- Kathy Kendrick
- Sue McDonald
- Lee Keuter
- Gary Kessler
- Tim Kinkade
- Meyer Mixdorf
- Zach Henry
- Arlan Biere

- Gregory Boschee
- Becky Keuter
- Carol Ott
- Jerry Nissen
- Christine Moffitt
- Sandy Kessler
- Josh Kendrick
- Betty Wager
- Gail Peterson
- Phillip Eason

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1 10am Worship & Communion	2	3 Quilting 1:30 pm	4 Choir @ 5:30	5 Bell Choir @ 6:15	6 <i>Sorry</i> WE'RE CLOSED	7
8 10am Worship & Communion	9	10 Executive Council Meeting 4 pm	11 Choir @ 5:30	12 Bell Choir @ 6:15	13 <i>Sorry</i> WE'RE CLOSED	14 
15 10am Worship Mardi Gras Food Pantry Volunteer	16	17 Council Meeting @5:30 Quilting 1:30 pm	18 Ash Wednesday Service @ 5:30 Choir after service 	19 Bell Choir @ 6:15	20 <i>Sorry</i> WE'RE CLOSED	21
22 10am Worship & Communion	23	24 Quilting 1:30 pm	25 Lenten Service @5:30 Choir after service <b>Faith &amp; Fellowship</b> @ 6:30	26 Bell Choir @ 6:15	27 <i>Sorry</i> WE'RE CLOSED	28



## Lenten Invitations

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday on February 18 for Salem Lutheran and the whole church.

Early on Christians recognized the need for an extended season of repentance, reflection, and growth for people to remain rooted in the Gospel. Traditions of fasting, worship, catechesis (learning the faith), prayer, and confession have abounded across the history of the church.

I want to invite you to take part in a Lenten journey this year at Salem. Our worship and education committees have been hard at work since Christmas planning a number of opportunities.

**Mardi Gras Breakfast.** Lent often begins with a feast on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, traditionally the last opportunity to eat meat and eggs before the 40 day fast. We'll have pancakes and jambalaya accompanied by some brass New Orleans music as we make masks and 'bury the Alleluia' for Lent. This is a Cross generational event. Please come and help all the generations in our congregation learn and celebrate together.

**Ash Wednesday On February 18 at 5:30** you are invited to receive ashes in a traditional Imposition of Ashes liturgy. Come remember the promises of Jesus to all of us 'who are dust.'

**Prayer around the Cross.** On the Wednesdays of Lent, beginning on February 25 at 5:30pm we will gather for an informal time of prayer. Come and lay your burdens and hurts at the cross of Jesus.

**Bible Study.** A new 8 week bible study, Together by Grace, is beginning in Lent, likely on Monday evenings. Designed to be accessible, conversation based, and applicable to daily life, I hope you might add time with God's Word in community to your Lent this year. If you are interested, speak with Pastor Jim. If there is sufficient interest an additional midday session maybe added as well.

Often Lent is called a season of *repentance*. That means it is a season of turning. Turning away from the things in our lives that distract us or that oppose God. And turning again toward the God of Jesus Christ, who claims us in baptism and showers life upon us abundantly. Won't you join us in the journey of Lent at Salem Lutheran this year?

God Bless,

Pastor Jim

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

602 W Townline  
Creston, Iowa 50801

Pastor: Jim Mossman  
641-782-2920

Office: Brenna Peterson-Farnsworth  
office@salemluth.net

Facebook:  
SALEM Lutheran  
Church-Creston, Iowa

Website: [salemluth.net](http://salemluth.net)

YouTube  
Salem Lutheran Church Creston IA

