



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

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Web Site: newsalemlutheran.org

Church Phone: 218-586-2262

AUGUST 2026

Monthly Events

August

6, 13, 20, 27

9:30 AM

Bible Study



August 10 & 14

Food Shelf

9:00am—

12:15pm

12:00pm—

3:15pm



August 5
Church
Musician's
Recital



12:00 concert

12:30 luncheon



August
17-20

Day Camp

9AM—

3PM

August 19

ALL CHURCH



Potluck & Birthday
Bag assembly

August

18

6:00

Teams

7:00 Council



Greetings, Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Throughout the gospels are accounts of Jesus trying to slip away for some quiet time with His Heavenly Father. Yet, most of the time the crowds follow, or even arrive before Jesus. Sometimes the disciples try to keep the people away but seldom are successful. Jesus tired and exhausted, shows compassion for the crowd, healed the sick, cast out demons, gave sight to the blind, announced forgiveness and gave food to the hungry.

In Matthew's gospel chapter 14, is the story of the feeding of the five thousand men, plus women and children. How they kept count, baffles most of us, so it is best to just take the writer at his word. This is another account of Jesus, tired and grieving the death of his cousin John the Baptist, shows compassion for the people. The story keeps going, as Jesus calls on the disciples to feed the people and it is no surprise, the disciples try to get Jesus to send the people away, to find food for themselves. Thank goodness Jesus does not listen to the complaining, just tells them to prepare a meal.

Now is the time for the disciples to show compassion, but it is different then how Jesus showed compassion. They realize five loaves and two fish will not stretch far enough to feed all the people. What is different here, is Jesus needs to be involved, as he lifts the loaves and fish asking God to bless and multiply so all have something to eat.

Nice story, has a happily ever after ending, yet we cannot stop there, we need to ask, so what is the word for us today? I hear in this story, Jesus calling the body of Christ, you and me, to find ways to show compassion, to one another and the strangers we meet.

Google definition: It is defined as **the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering.** How we show compassion can be different for each of us, in different situations. I personally think it can go beyond, meeting the basic needs, to seeing the deeper issues, and being motivated to do the work.

We have the privilege in this country to pick the people we want to be part of showing compassion, when we vote. I encourage everyone to vote, and think about how compassion can be expressed. Inviting Jesus to be part of making your choices.

God's blessings and Peace, Pastor Terry

*New Salem Lutheran Church is a Community of Christians having a mission to serve others through **Hospitality** and **Caregiving** and inviting all people into*

Meet your 2026 New Salem Council
 President: Nora Illes
 Vice Pres: Fred Sanford
 Secretary: Calli Ferdig
 Treasurer: Paul Kraft
 Graig Gilbertson Jerry Illes
 Sonya Kraft Shannon Pitt Bob Wagner
 Council meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Tuesday
 of each month.

Join our Ministry Teams
 Worship & Music Youth & Education
 Building & Grounds Stewardship & Outreach
 Teams meet at 6:00 on the same evening.



WEDNESDAY,

AUGUST 5TH

12:00 RECITAL

12:30 LUNCH

Bemidji Area
 Church Musicians
 (BACM)



FEATURING OUR
 OWN NEW SALEM CHOIR AND MUSICIANS.



DAY CAMP
AUGUST 17-20
9:00 AM—3:00 PM
EARLY DROP OFF
7:30 AM

POTLUCK & BIRTHDAY BAGS
ON WEDNESDAY EVENING



REMEMBER LAST YEAR'S FUN!!

Join the Choir!

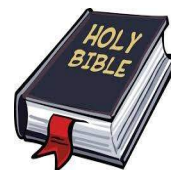


If you like to sing, join the New Salem Choir! We are a fun, friendly, supportive group, and the ability to read music is not necessary! The choir sings for worship on the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as presenting special music at Christmas and Easter, and participating in the summer Bemidji Area Church Musicians recital. Rehearsals are at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – come join us!



Readings for AUGUST

AUGUST 2: Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21
 AUGUST 9: 1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33
 AUGUST 16: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:10-28
 AUGUST 23: Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20
 AUGUST 30: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28





New Salem Council Minutes

July 21, 2026

Present: Pastor Terry, Calli Ferdig, Graig Gilbertson, Nora Illies, Bob Wagner, Jerry Illies, Sonya Kraft, Fred Sanford, Shannon Pitt, Paul Kraft **Officers Present:** President: Nora Illies, Vice President: Fred Sanford, Secretary: Calli Ferdig, Treasurer: Paul Kraft

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Nora Illies.

Devotion – Sonya, August will be Shannon.

Approval of the July 21, 2026 Meeting Agenda: Jerry moved to approve the agenda; Sonya seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of June 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes: Calli moved to approve the previous minutes; Bob seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Worship attendance has increased by close to 50% in the past two years.

What/Where is God calling us to be? We want to stay focused on our mission and the 'why' we do what we do. Lead with humbleness and keep our decisions mission focused.

Financial Report:

- ♦ Report submitted by Paul Kraft, Treasurer. Fell just short of June budget, 8% behind budget for the year. Capital Improvement deposits are up YTD. Reviewed NSLC income and expenses for the year, no concerns noted.
- ♦ Paul suggested that a separate checking account is opened for Designated Giving to keep those funds set aside from our General Fund. Bob motioned to open an additional checking account at First National Bank for the purpose of Designated Giving; Shannon seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ♦ With a recent increase in the mortgage rate, Paul suggests that we increase our additional principal payment each month from \$100 to \$200. The additional \$200 will go towards principal only on a monthly basis. Jerry moved to increase the additional principal payment towards the mortgage; Graig seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Labyrinth update; Pr Terry and Nora discussed adding a sign near the entrance of the labyrinth that discusses the reasoning and intended purpose of a labyrinth. The second item discussed was installing a new sign by the highway and/or keeping it on a loop on the illuminated sign near the highway.
- Parking lot striping, no update.
- Automatic door opener on bathrooms will be installed on Wednesday 7/22/26. Once installed, Todavich Electric will come wire them in.
- Pictorial directory update. Nora and Sonya are working on getting the directory updated. Sonya will work on getting updated pictures and Pr Terry and Nora will work on the directory.
- Exploring options for a way to pay electronically via Venmo for offering, craft sales, miscellaneous payments, etc. More to come.

New Business:

Team Reports

Worship and Music: July 26th Outdoor worship. Mike Naylor is leading music. Discussed the items needed for the service and divided the workload amongst council members and others. Thank you to all who have offered to help.

Stewardship and Outreach: Pr Terry reported that 'Our Work, God's Hands' will be doing backpacks for youth before the school year. United Way is helping with logistics. More to come.

Building and Grounds: We will be painting the garage this Thursday, 7/23/26 at 6:30pm. Gloves and brushes are provided. Please bring your friends and wear painting clothes. Light refreshments will be served.

Youth and Education: Day Camp will be held on August 17-20, early drop off begins at 7:30am, program time is 9am-3pm. The Education Team plans to meet soon to discuss additional details. Pathways staff will be joining us again. Wednesday night potluck and birthday bags.

Next Meeting: Next meeting is Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00pm. Teams will meet at 6:00pm.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.



**Construction
of the
Labyrinth
Sunday,
July 12th**



If you missed the article in the Bemidji Pioneer, check out the front page of the Wednesday, July 15th issue. It's a nice article by Dennis Doeden and includes some pictures.



More than half of the year has flown by already and the dog days of summer are here. The food shelf is firing on all cylinders and New Salem's team is expanding to include friends from the community. Word is getting out about how much fun we have serving others as we serve our Lord.

As summer winds down, food insecurity does not. We continue to host thousands of families. Through June, the food shelf distributed 21% more food than in the same period last year, even though visits decreased by 4%. Having the farm back up and running likely contributes to this additional food for clients. What a gift to have fresh produce.

Volunteers, please join us for the Ice Cream Social this month! Show your friends and family what we do and enjoy some ice cream and fellowship.

The food shelf is air conditioned and the shifts are short; just 3-hrs. per month. We'd love you to join the fun and get to know this delightful crew. Find out what the attraction is by giving it a try!

August Shifts:

Monday, Aug. 10, from 9:00 – 12:15

Monday, Aug. 10, from 12:00 – 3:30

Friday, Aug. 14, from 9:00 – 12:15



Contact me at church or anytime at 612.940.7312, ksnortland5@gmail.com to get started. Thank you and stay cool!

Isaiah 49:10: "They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that has mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them"

In His Service,

Karin Snortland

Council of Churches Representative



New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner

August 2026

Heart's Haven Shelter



Heart's Haven Shelter celebrates new name, \$3.2 million milestone

The **Northwoods Battered Women's Shelter** marked a new chapter on July 14, **unveiling its new name — Heart's Haven Shelter** — along with a new logo and tagline, "where our hearts are watched over."

The new building more than doubles the shelter's previous capacity and, for the first time, gives residents private rooms and their own bathrooms.

Heart's Haven is a domestic violence shelter and advocacy program with a vision of a community free of domestic violence in which safety is a basic human right. Heart's Haven provides emergency crisis shelter and advocacy to victim/survivors of intimate partner violence; this includes shelter services to women and their children and short-term safe housing to men and their children.

Crisis shelter is temporary, short term housing. With the crisis shelter and safe housing services, Heart's Haven provides emotional support, meals, items to meet basic needs (personal hygiene products and clothing), and transportation.

Heart's Haven advocacy also consists of institutional advocacy and social change advocacy. Institutional advocacy is acting as a voice for victim/survivors, collectively, within systems or institutions that interact with victim/survivors, such as the Criminal Justice System or with local service providers. Social change advocacy is impacting social norms and attitudes towards domestic violence; this large picture advocacy is implemented by educating others on the dynamics of domestic violence and speaking to the collective needs of victim/survivors using the information learned from direct service work.

The shelter is located at 1215 30th St NW. Donations will be accepted on Tuesday & Friday from Noon-4pm only. Items needed include: kitchen, baby, household, personal care, clothing, and kids and activity items.

See <https://www.mnshelter.org/wish-list/> for a more detailed list. Monetary contributions are, of course, always welcome.

Heart's Haven Shelter offers several opportunities for community members to become involved in the work of ending domestic violence. Please see <https://www.mnshelter.org/get-involved/> for area of interest or call 218-444-1395 for more information.

God's Work, Our Treasure—AUGUST 2026

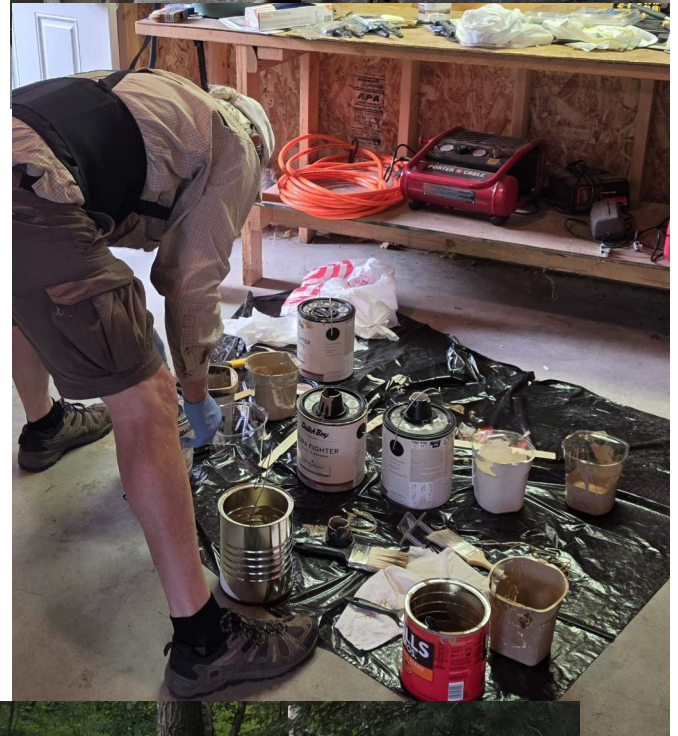
This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, the **Heart's Haven Shelter**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable ministry.

You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for the **Heart's Haven**

Please prayerfully consider how you might support the work of this important ministry.

<https://www.mnshelter.org/>

***Painting the
Garage
July 23rd***



New Salem Lutheran Church Endowment Fund

Establishment of the Endowment Fund

At the Annual Congregational Meeting held on January 29, 2017, the congregation passed a continuing resolution to establish the Mission Endowment Fund of New Salem Lutheran Church.

At that time, a committee of five (5) was elected to begin working on policies and procedures for this Fund. Subsequently, an account, independent of any accounts for the general operation of church, was established so that gifts for the Endowment Fund could be received and accumulated. It took a minimum of \$25,000 to actually endow the fund.

During the fall of 2017, a generous member of the congregation offered to match donations and pledges to the Endowment Fund up to \$50,000, pledges to be paid within a 3-years window. The generous people of New Salem gave and pledged the full \$50,000 for the match. By the end of 2020, the fund was fully endowed at \$102,000.

The Fund has been generating earnings quarterly. Based on market values and averaged over the previous 5 years, 3-8% of the assets of the Fund can be distributed according to a distribution formula. In no event can distributions reduce the Fund balance below the \$102,000 corpus. The distribution percent shall follow as nearly as reasonable the distribution recommended by the advisors of the ELCA Endowment Ministry Growth Fund.

Endowment Funds



Gift

An establishing gift is made and forms the principal



Grow

The principal is protected, invested, and grows.



Grant

A portion of the fund's value is distributed annually forever.

The Mission and Purpose of the Endowment Fund

Christians can give to the work of the church through gifts in and from wills, life insurance policies, and transfers of property such as cash, stocks, bonds, and real estate. It is the desire of New Salem Lutheran Church to encourage, receive and administer these gifts in a manner consistent with the loyalty and devotion to our Lord in accord with the policies of this church.

It is the purpose of this Endowment Fund to **enhance the mission outreach** of New Salem Lutheran Church apart from the general operation of the Congregation so that no portion of the distributions of this fund shall be used for the annual operating budget of the congregation.

An Endowment Fund Committee (herein referred to as the Committee) consists of five (5) members, all of whom must be voting members of New Salem Lutheran Church. Members are elected at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for three (3) year terms and can serve a maximum of 3 such terms. At each Annual Meeting, the Committee shall render a full and complete account of the administration of the funds during the preceding year.

In the early years, the goal was to increase the fund by re-investing the earnings. Gradually, our focus has shifted to the ability to give grants to worthy causes.

Distribution of Earnings from the Endowment Fund

1. Up to 100% for outreach into the community and synod.
2. Up to 35% for missions of the ELCA, nationally and worldwide.
3. Up to 35% for capital improvements and debt reduction for a building program.

A brochure is available on the credenza in the narthex which gives more information about the establishment and purpose of our Endowment Fund. It includes **ways in which YOU can make a gift to the Endowment Fund** and some **FAQs**. Contact a member of the Team for further information. See Page 5 of this newsletter for names.

New Salem Land Acknowledgement

New Salem Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe, Assiniboine, & Dakota people[s], and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous sisters and brothers who have and continue to call this land their home.

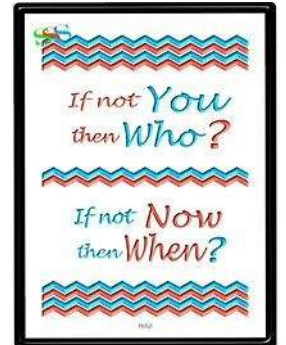


The Service Group Needs a President

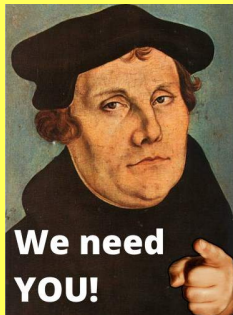
The New Salem Service Group is once again in search of a President/leader. This volunteer position is open to all women and men – perhaps there's a couple in the congregation that would like to take on this project?

Note that there is a dedicated Treasure and a dedicated Secretary. Plus others have stepped into leadership roles for the main activities of this Group, such as the Rummage Sale, the Fall Bazaar, the Funeral Coordinator, and stocking the kitchen supplies, so the President has plenty of willing help. Also, the men and women of the congregation are terrific at volunteering to help on the various activities. The Group usually meets every other month on the second Monday.

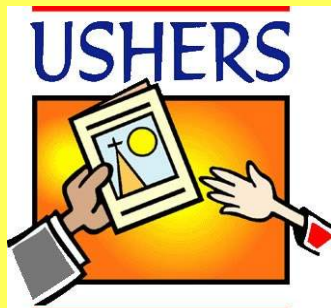
For more information and a list of responsibilities, please contact interim leader Karyn Lutz at lutz@paulbunyan.net or 218-280-7488.



YOU are an Important Part of New Salem
Volunteer to assist with some part of worship!
Volunteers Enhance the Worship Experience
for Everyone!



Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex.
Instructions are available as needed.

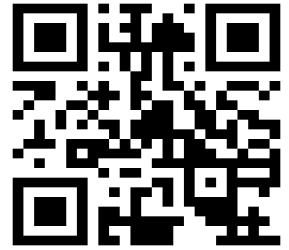


Do you know that you can support the mission of New Salem electronically?

Yes, collection plates are still passed during service!

You can use your phone to scan this QR code.

It'll take you to a secure Vanco page where you can quickly and easily make your donation. This can be a regularly scheduled or a one time donation.



Or, if you're at your computer, you can simply click on (or copy & paste) this link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z88A> (ctrl-click) to get to the same Vanco site.



General Fund

Support the general operations of our congregation.

Donate

The General Fund supports the everyday operations of our church. It pays salaries, the mortgage, the utilities, the routine costs of operation as we share the Good Word with our neighbors.



Mission Partners

Donation for Mission Partners. Help causes such as hunger, homelessness, and other needs in our community and society.

Donate

Each month, our Stewardship Team designates a Mission Partner to support with our "second mile" giving. These are organizations that help our neighbors within our community or help ELCA efforts like disaster relief.



Building Fund

Even a house of God sometimes needs repairs!

Donate

The Building Fund supports the repair and maintenance of our church building, which was completed in January of 2005. Just like our own homes, regular upkeep is essential.



New Salem Service Group

Women and men of New Salem united in their efforts to serve the needs of our church and our community.

Donate

This dedicated group sponsors events like an annual rummage sale and an annual craft sale. They also serve at funerals. Funds raised are dispersed back into the community.



to all of you who are currently using Vanco to make donations to the mission of New Salem. Your support is much appreciated.

Life is busy for all of us and giving electronically can help simplify that. Whether you join us in-person or online, **YOU are Welcome** and a part of our New Salem family. Vanco makes it safe and easy to support our mission.