



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

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FEBRUARY 2024

Monthly Events

Feb. 2



Feb.
1, 8, 15, 22
9:30 AM
Bible Study

Feb. 9 & 12
Food Shelf

9:00am—12:15pm
12:00pm—3:15pm

Feb. 7 & 21
3:30 pm

Book Discussion
5:30 pm

Confirmation



Feb. 14

7:00 pm Ash
Wednesday
Service



Happy
Valentine's
Day

Feb. 19

(Note date & time change)
Teams Meet
6:00-6:30 PM
Council



Beloved in Christ,

Our Old Testament readings from Samuel and Jonah are two guys being called by God to deliver a message of destruction if there isn't change. Samuel to Eli, the priest, and Jonah to the people of Nineveh, both announcing God's intended punishment, one for not following the sacrificial rules and the other for turning away from God. Samuel, just a boy, spoke the truth to Eli the old priest, who accepted it to be true and deserving. Jonah, a very resistant man, spoke the truth to the people of Nineveh, they listened and repented, turned away from their sinful behavior, and followed God.

In St Mark's gospel, is the calling of the disciples, four men, who had heard very little about Jesus, left their boats and families to follow Jesus, who promised to give them new jobs, and a partnership in His ministry. Both accounts are about listening and taking action, even if there were skid marks, God made sure it happened as I assume God wanted it to happen.

Something very common for many people and churches is that at times we become complacent with the world. Our response to what we see and hear, might be, "It is what it is, can't do anything about it, so just have to accept it." Or, "I'm tired of hearing all about it so I quit watching the news." I find myself saying or thinking these very thoughts, "Just let me stick my head in the sand, and let the world move on by."

In the Bible readings, I hear the very opposite, "There's work to do," or as our granddaughter use to say, "Suck it up buttercup." At times it feels to me like we're just coasting through life, ignoring God's call to action, to do the tough stuff, or say the tough words.

In reading an article about civil rights, the author said, "Instead of accepting the things we can't change, change the things we can't accept." I believe we the beloved of God here at New Salem, work at following this quote, putting forth, sometimes great efforts and risks to change "the unacceptable things, the unjust treatment of people, and seeing others as beloved people of God too."

I share these thoughts to say thank you on behalf of all who gain from our efforts and for having ears to hear and eyes to see where the work is needed. We are all called as workers in the Kingdom of God, where we are, and it's so very important we don't become complacent.

Blessings and Peace Pr. Terry

P.S. I'm scheduled for hip surgery on February 27th and will be recovering most of the month of March. The council has worked to be sure the needs of the congregation are met.

*New Salem Lutheran Church is a Community of Christians having a mission to serve others through **Hospitality** and **Caregiving** and inviting all people into a life-giving relationship with Jesus through worship and discipleship.*

Meet your 2024 New Salem Council

President: Rick Bogart

Vice Pres: Jon Severson

Secretary: Eric Medberry

Treasurer: Sue Rosselet

Calli Ferdig Dave Johnson

Fred Sanford Bob Wagner

Council meets at 6:30 on the 3rd Tuesday
of each month.

Please note a date change for February
only to Monday, Feb. 19th

Join our Ministry Teams

Worship & Music Youth & Education

Building & Grounds Stewardship & Outreach



Service Group Meeting

February 12th, 6:30 pm

in the Fellowship Hall



Confirmation

5:30 pm Wednesdays February 7 & 21

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service Feb. 14

Please start collecting items for our annual
Rummage Sale



Stay tuned for more info!

Scheduled for
Saturday, April 20

There will also be
a Bake Sale



WAMM

is taking a break
in February.

It will restart in
early March.

Children from pre-school through 6th
grade are welcome to participate.



Readings for FEBRUARY:

FEBRUARY 4: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

FEBRUARY 11: Transfiguration Sunday 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6;
Mark 9:2-9

FEBRUARY 14: Ash Wednesday Joel 2:1-2, 12-; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10;
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

FEBRUARY 18: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

FEBRUARY 25: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38





New Salem Council Minutes Meeting of January 16, 2024

Present: Pastor Terry, Rick Bogart, Jon Severson, Eric Medberry, Sue Rosselet, Calli Ferdig, Dave Johnson, Fred Sanford, Bob Wagner **Absent:** Myra Lindahl

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

Congregational Officers: President: Rick Bogart, VP: Jon Severson, Secretary: Eric Medberry, Treasurer: Sue Rosselet

Devotion - Rick - Next month will be Jon

Approval of the January 16th, 2024 Meeting Agenda: Sue moved approval; Calli seconded; passed.

Approval of the December 19th, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Fred moved approval; Jon seconded; passed

Pastor's Update: • Leave for surgery - Feb 27th - through (hopefully) March 24th

o Pastoral needs during Pr. Terry's leave: ■ Sunday mornings • Pastor will work with the Synod to get a list of names

■ On-call pastor for visits and funerals ■ Lenten schedule

o Sue moved to approve a cancellation of Lenten services except for Ash Wednesday, seek to have Sundays covered until Pastor can return, and look for an on-call pastor for visits and funerals during that same time; Bob seconded.

Discussion ensued. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Rosselet:

• We reviewed the Mission Plan for 2024 o We did end the year in the black ■ 10% of e surplus will go to the Synod ■ Giving increased this year o Monthly benevolences for our local partners continues to be strong o We will continue to support the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) through the General Fund in 2024 ■ We discussed transferring some of the CIF into a CD • Calli will pull some rates for discussion at next meeting o We continue to pay the extra \$100 on our mortgage • Report was accepted and filed

Old Business:

• Council Nominations for 2024 - Bob Wagner has agreed to submit his name for the 2-year term and Eric Medberry and Rick Bogart have agreed to submit their names for 3-year terms. Graig Gilbertson has agreed to submit his name for a 3-year term.

• **Annual Meeting - January 28, 2024 - Congregation potluck to follow**

• Commercial rack to secure audio equipment has been ordered and scheduled for installation in February

• Rick updated changes in our property insurance o Details on roof replacement have changed - We are still in decent shape and no new action is required, but will wait until new numbers come out in March

• Earned Sick & Safe Time (ESST): Discussion about how it impacts our staff o Applies to anyone working more than 80 hours a year and not currently getting PTO o Would require more official record keeping for hours worked

■ Bob moved that we require signed timesheets as mandated by the state so that earned time can be awarded and applied to qualified employees; Calli seconded Discussion ensued. Motion carried.

• Fred moved to change our council meeting time to 6:30 and allow teams to still meet from 6 to 6:30. Second by Dave. Motion carried. It was also agreed to meet on Monday, 19th in Feb as many can't make Tuesday, 20th.

New Business:

Team Reports - we need to get members back involved in our team meetings o If teams meet at other times, please send a report to the council

• Youth & Education o Sunday School activities are on hold through February for winter hiatus

o We will meet and discuss the spring semester at a later date (potentially March 3rd) o We have started to discuss dates for Pathways this summer; potentially early August

• Worship and Music o Did not meet this month

• Stewardship and Outreach o Did not meet this month

• Buildings and Grounds o Nothing new to report this month

Next Meeting: • Monday, February 19th at 6:30 pm. Note the date change for this month only

o Teams will meet at 6pm.

Adjournment/Lord's Prayer: • Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

February 14th 7:00 pm Service



Ash Wednesday

*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

~Ecclesiastes 3:20



Sponsor a Meal!



& SUPPORT LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY!

WHY SPONSOR A MEAL?

BEGINNING SPRING 2024 WE ARE HOSTING WEEKLY SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY/WORSHIP! FOR THIS WEEKEND GATHERING WE WANT TO PROVIDE FREE LUNCH TO STUDENTS.

WE ARE INVITING MINISTRY PARTNERS TO HELP US WITH THIS MEAL!

CONTACT:

PR. EMILY

218-751-5326 / 218-766-3554

LUTHERANCAMPUSBEMIDJI@GMAIL.COM



WHAT SHOULD WE BRING?

YOU BRING THE MAIN DISH(ES), SIDES, AND DESSERT.

SOME OF OUR PARTNERS PREFER TO CATER (JIMMY JOHNS, QDOBA, FOZZIES BBQ, PIZZA), SOME FOLKS LIKE TO COOK EVERYTHING FROM SCRATCH (HOT DISHES, PASTA, SOUPS), AND SOME DO A MIX OF BOTH. OUR STUDENTS EAT MOST ANYTHING.

WE REQUEST NO PORK FOR OUR INTERFAITH STUDENTS AND THAT YOU LABEL ANYTHING WITH NUTS!

HOW MANY STUDENTS?

WE ANTICIPATE BETWEEN 10 AND 15 STUDENTS.

ERRING ON THE SIDE OF MORE FOOD IS BETTER THAN NOT ENOUGH FOOD... NOTHING GOES TO WASTE! WE ENJOY LEFTOVERS DURING THE WEEK.

WHAT DOES LCM PROVIDE?

WE PROVIDE PLATES, CUPS, BOWLS, UTENSILS, NAPKINS, AND DRINKS. IF YOU GIVE US A HEADS UP WE CAN PROVIDE ANYTHING ELSE YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GET.

MEAL DROP OFF:

11:45AM AT THE LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTER!

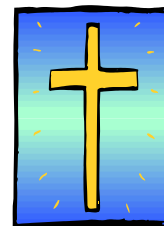
1221 BIRCHMONT DR NE
BEMIDJI, MN 56601

SIGN
UP
HERE!



CAN WE DONATE MONEY INSTEAD?

ABSOLUTELY! MINISTRY PARTNERS MAY SIMPLY GIVE \$75 - \$100 FOR A MEAL FOR OUR STUDENTS AND WE TAKE CARE OF ORDERING EVERYTHING AND TRANSPORTING IT!



OUR IMPACT IN 2023...

25 Percent increase in Food Shelf Usage in 2023

In 2023 the Bemidji Community Food Shelf set a record for number of people helped in a 12-month period.

- ◆ 37,519 Individuals
- ◆ 11,913 Families
- ◆ 755,338 lbs. of Food
- ◆ (\$1,382,000 in value)

First time users increase in 2023

Growth in number of new Food Shelf users in 2023.

The numbers of the people who came to the food shelf for the first time ever continues to grow.

- 2,497 Individuals
- 892 Families
- 52,053 lbs of Food

"Without the food shelf, I would not be able to feed my kids. By the end of the month, we're not able to make ends meet."

food shelf customer.

Lend a Hand

"Fulfilling an urgent community need makes my volunteer experience rewarding."

DEEP WINTER GREENHOUSE The Bemidji Community Food Shelf is one of five sites in Minnesota to construct a Deep Winter Greenhouse (DWG) in partnership with the University of Minnesota. This exciting and innovative structure allows the Farm to grow greens and vegetables for food shelf families all year round!

God's Work, Our Treasure—February 2024

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, the **Bemidji Community Food Shelf**, 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 **Bemidji Community Food Shelf**

And we will forward your gift to them.



Birthday Bags

Are Back!!



We'll collect items through February 24th

Bins are on the table in the Narthex.

**Assembling the bags will be after service on February 25th
plan to stay & help!**

What do we need??

**Full-sized cake mixes
(chocolate, white, yellow)**

**16 oz tubs of frosting
(chocolate, white, dark chocolate)**

Birthday Napkins (luncheon sized)

**For those of you who are remote but want to help,
you can order online from Amazon, Target or Walmart
and have the order delivered to the church.**



We ask that you prayerfully
consider volunteering even once
for one of these ministries on
Sunday morning.



COMMUNION
Assistants



READER



USHERS



Fellowship
After
Worship

**Volunteers Enhance the Worship Experience
for Everyone!**

**Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex or
sign-up online by using this QR code.**





Birthday Bags are Back!! It's time to restock birthday bags for the Food Shelf. Items will be collected through Saturday, February 24th and bags will be assembled on Sunday, February 25th – please plan to help! Donations needed: cake mixes, tubs of frosting, large birthday napkins, and birthday candles. There's a bin on the table in the fellowship hall for items. For those of you who are remote but want to help, order online from Amazon, Target or Walmart and have the items delivered to church.

In just two short years, the number of people served at the food shelf has doubled. Here are some stats from '23:

37,569 individuals served
11,913 Households fed
755,338 lbs. of food distributed
13,649 volunteer hours



These numbers show that now, more than ever, we need volunteers who can help serve our community by working a 3-hr. shift once a month. **Is God calling you?** (If not, I am!!!) Volunteers need not be from New Salem – bring a buddy (neighbor, friend, etc.) Contact me at 612.940.7312 or ksnortland5@gmail.com to join the fun and fulfilling ministry.

As always, donations of cash, food, personal care items, grocery bags, as well as Our Family UPC labels, and books (especially children's) are welcome. Just drop donations at the Food Shelf M-W and F between 8:30-3:00, or at church anytime. Look for the baskets near the credenza when you enter.

February Shifts:

Friday, Feb. 9 from 9:00 – 12:15
Monday, Feb. 12 from 9:00 – 12:15
Monday, Feb. 12 from 12:00 – 3:15

1 Peter 4:10: Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can play a role in this meaningful ministry. We are all called to serve!

With anticipation for the coming year,

Karin Snortland

Council of Churches Representative

Join our Adult Discussion Group

Every other Wednesday

@ 3:30pm February 7 & 21

We'll be meeting in-person & via Zoom

We'll be finishing "Braiding Sweetgrass" and selecting our next book for discussion. Do you have a book to suggest?

Remember that you're welcome to join the discussion, even if you can't attend every week.





**January 21st
First City Handbell Choir
provided special music for
our worship service.**



**They also treated us to a
short concert after service.**



Over the past months, a group of New Salem people have been engaged in learning about the history and culture of our Indigenous brothers and sisters. We have read and continue to read and discuss books and articles. We continue to learn!

In May, some of us walked with our Indigenous people in honoring and remembering Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) and Girls; in June, in keeping with the ELCA's request that congregations dedicate a Sunday service to MMIW, we had a special service; on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we integrated a Thanksgiving Address that many native cultures use and which gives thanks to Mother Earth and all that the Creator has given and entrusted to us.

A natural next step is to consider having a Land Acknowledgement statement for New Salem. The topic raises many questions and we welcome yours and your input. Materials are available on the table in the narthex. Please read them and join the discussions on Wednesdays.

What is a Land Acknowledgement?

A Land Acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

Why is Land Acknowledgement Important?

A land acknowledgment is a formal way to recognize the Indigenous peoples who have come before you, and who were removed — often violently — from their land due to colonization.

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

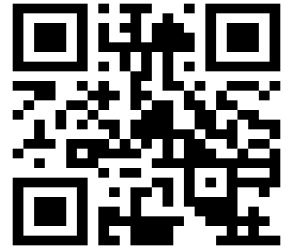
Minnesota is centered within Dakota creation stories and is an important place in traditional Ojibwe history. Along with the **Dakota and Ojibwe, the Ho-Chunk, Cheyenne, Oto, Iowa, and the Sac & Fox tribes** also acknowledge Minnesota as important to their tribal histories.

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

Yes, collection plates are still be 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 part of our New Salem family. Vanco makes it safe and easy to support our mission.