



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

E-Mail Address: newsalem@paulbunyan.net

Web Site: newsalemlutheran.org

Church Phone: 218-586-2262

JULY 2026

Monthly Events

July 16, 23, 30

9:30 AM

Bible Study



July 10 & 13

Food Shelf

9:00am—

12:15pm

12:00pm—

3:15pm



July 1



July 4

July 12
Labyrinth
Build



July 21

6:00 Teams

7:00 Council



July 26
Service
at
Three
Island
Park



Sisters and Brothers,

Being a disciple, a follower of Jesus requires both commitment and desire. Commitment keeps us connected to Christ, trusting that as we remain close to him, we will hear his words of wisdom and guidance. Desire comes from deep within our hearts, leading us to shape our lives after the example Jesus has given us. Being a disciple also means belonging to a community of people who seek to follow Christ together.

When Jesus called his first disciples, he invited them to leave behind one way of living and embrace another. They were called from lives centered primarily on themselves, their families, and their daily work into lives marked by trust, service, and self-giving love. The Gospels tell us they immediately got up and followed him, even though they did not know where that journey would lead or what would be asked of them.

I sometimes wonder whether it happened exactly that way or whether the Gospel writers wanted to emphasize the importance of responding without hesitation. Either way, the story reminds us that discipleship begins with a step of faith.

My hope is we continue to hear Jesus calling us to be his disciples. I believe that call comes to us every day. Yet there are times when our attention is drawn elsewhere. There is no judgment in that. We all lose our focus from time to time. If we never did, I would wonder whether we were truly human.

One of the questions I spend time praying about is this: *What is Jesus calling our faith community to be and to do today?* I believe Christ has led us into many amazing opportunities, and together we have answered that call. However, we must remember Jesus reminds us to remain humble and not become too boastful. Daily, we are invited to keep our eyes and ears open to new opportunities to share God's love, grace, and mercy within our faith community and beyond our walls.

Jesus sent his disciples to proclaim the kingdom of God through both their words and their actions. That calling has not changed. As Christ's disciples today, we are sent to proclaim God's love, grace, and mercy in all that we say and do.

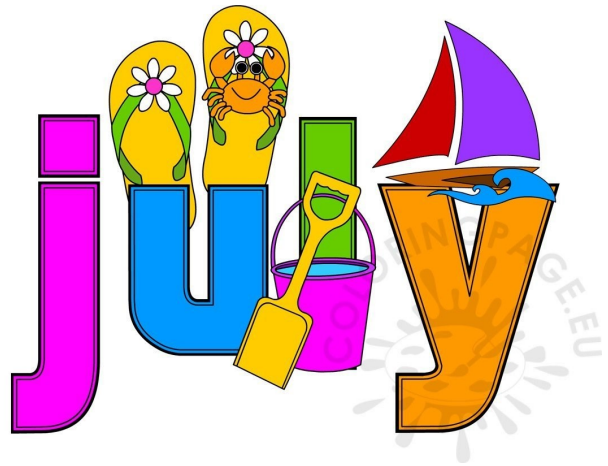
May we have ears to hear Christ's voice, hearts willing to trust, and courage to follow wherever he leads.

God's grace, love, and mercy be with you all.

Pr. 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 a life-giving relationship with Jesus through worship and discipleship.*

Meet your 2026 New Salem Council
 President: Nora Illes
 Vice Pres: Fred Sanford
 Secretary: Calli Ferdig
 Treasurer: Jerry Illes
 Graig Gilbertson 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.

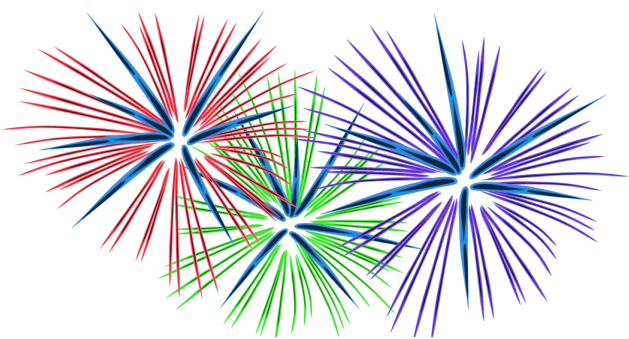


Join Us for Worship
 9:30 AM
 At Three Island Park
 Sunday, July 26th
 Potluck following
 Service

Reminder
 There will NOT be a
 morning Bible Study on
 July 2nd or July 9th




Join the Celebration
 For a schedule and more
 information, see
[www.bemidjijaycees.com/
 water-carnival.html](http://www.bemidjijaycees.com/water-carnival.html)

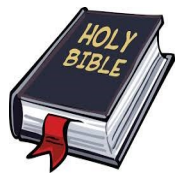


Join the Choir!

Make a Joyful Noise 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 JULY
 JULY 5: Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
 JULY 12: Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
 JULY 19: Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
 JULY 26: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-22, 44-52





New Salem Council Minutes

June 23, 2026

Present: Pastor Terry, Graig Gilbertson, Nora Illies, Bob Wagner, Jerry Illies, Sonya Kraft, Fred Sanford, Shannon Pitt

Absent: Calli Ferdig

Officers Present: President Nora Illies, Vice President Fred Sanford, Treasurer Jerry Illies

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM by Nora Illies

Devotion: Bob did it. Sonya will do July.

Approval of May 19 meeting minutes: Jerry moved to approve, Fred seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of agenda for June 16: Jerry moved to approve. Fred Seconded. Motion carried.

Pastors report:

- A. Pastor will be gone June 29-July 6. Tim Lutz will lead worship and preach.
- B. Barbecue last weekend had 60 people attending and was a great event.
- C. We will have another get-together on July 26 at Three Island Park. It will be a potluck.
- D. We will also have another outside meal in August at New Salem.

Financial report:

- A. Jerry reported and the latest report is good. Jerry passed out and discussed summary.
- B. Paul Kraft will be taking over treasurer next week. Motion was made by Fred to accept Paul. Seconded by Bob. Motion carried. Sonya abstained.
- C. We will have a position description for the treasurer that will be ready in August.
- D. Talked about signing checks, various funds which will be discussed later.

Old Business;

We will do our labyrinth after service on July 12. Knife River will supply the rocks. People may bring some if they wish but no painting on them.

Nothing new on the parking lot.

New Business;

Automatic bathroom doors are in our plan. Not clear where money will come from yet but we have options. About \$10,000 is estimated, Bob moved and Sonya seconded and motion approved.

Pictures and Addresses upgrade. Talked about having new pictures and addresses by the first of August. Will discuss more with Sonya, Traci, Terry, Shannon, and probably a few others as we move forward.

Team Reports;

Worship and Music: Mike Naylor will move help with this.

Stewardship: Congregation will get backpacks in the fall.

Buildings and Grounds: Bob stated that we will be painting garage the last two weeks in July.

Youth and Education; We have two kids going to Menahga Bible camp.

Next Meeting is July 21, 2026. Team at 6 and council at 7.

Lord's Prayer

Adjourn at 8:18 PM

Respectfully

Graig Gilbertson



The Food Shelf Farm is up and running and needs volunteers! Whether you can stay for an hour or the whole evening, your help makes a difference in growing fresh, healthy food for our community. Join us every Tuesday from 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM throughout the season. No experience is necessary, just bring comfortable clothes,

closed-toe shoes, and a willingness to help. This is a wonderful opportunity for students, employees, and anyone needing or wanting volunteer hours who can't volunteer during regular daytime hours. Enjoy the fresh air, meet great people, and support local families in need.

Dirt not your thing? Join us for a 3-hr. shift in the store this month and get to know your fellow parishioners! Have responsible kids who need something to do this summer? Bring them along to experience the blessings of serving others! 612.940.7312, ksnortland5@gmail.com

July Shifts:

Friday, July 10, from 9:00 – 12:15

Monday, July 13, from 9:00 – 12:15

Monday, July 13, from 12:00 – 3:30

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. – Genesis 8:22

In His Service,

Karin Snortland
Council of Churches Representative



2025 Data
13,063 Visits
41,576 Individuals Served
891,576 Pounds of Food Distributed
736 Donors





New Salem Lutheran Church Endowment Team

Meeting of June 24, 2026

The Endowment Team meeting via zoom was called to order approximately 5:03 pm on June 24, 2026. Those in attendance were: Lisa Hofstad, Mike Finkenbinder, Sue Rosselet, Jodi Knott and Paul Kraft.

The first order of business was to confirm Team members approved to sign checks for the Endowment Team. Those listed as approved signatories are: Lisa Hofstad, Mike Finkenbinder and Jodi Knott. These members are approved signers for accounts held at:

First National Bank Bemidji

Ameriprise

ELCA Endowment Fund

Plans are underway to make these changes at their respective locations to notify the business to these updated signers.

The second order of business was to discuss a recent grant request submitted by the NS Church Council and NS Building and Property Team via an application submitted by Pastor Terry Hagensen. The request is for \$4000 from the Endowment fund proceeds to have automatic door openers installed for both main bathroom doors. The request notes the number of people using walkers and other mobility equipment continues to grow. This addition would ensure our bathrooms are accessible to everyone and support New Salem's ministry and commitment to "You Are Welcome". Automatic doors on the bathrooms would improve accessibility throughout the building and remove barriers to participation and help create a more welcoming environment. The requested grant of \$4000 would be a portion of the cost with the balance to come from other Church account resources. This is a one time request.

-The Team members discussed the request and all agreed it would improve independence and mobility for a growing segment of folks within our Church community.

-Mike F. brought up an idea for consideration regarding the possibility of installing just one automatic door opener on the uni-sex bathroom in the Southeast corner of the fellowship hall. Something for the Council and Building committees to consider.

-After further discussion, Mike F. made a motion to approve the \$4000 grant for automating bathroom doors. Sue R. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Team discussed moving \$5000 from the Endowment fund proceeds to the First National Bank account to pay out the \$4000 grant and allow for a higher remaining balance in that checking account. Mike F. made a motion to transfer the \$5000, Jodi seconded the motion. This transfer was approved by a unanimous vote.

Sue R. suggested the awareness of the Endowment Fund was not well understood throughout the Congregation. Sue suggested an informational write-up should be made in the monthly newsletter informing people of the existence of the fund and how to request a grant. All agreed. Sue is going to pursue this effort in an upcoming newsletter.

Our next meeting is currently scheduled for the 3rd Qtr. 2026. Lisa H. will send out a meeting notice at a later date for an agreeable time and date.

After all business at hand had been completed, Sue R. made a motion to adjourn, Jodi K. seconded it and with no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Paul Kraft, recording



HOPE HOUSE BEMIDJI

MISAWENDAMOOWIGAMIG BEMIJIGAMAAG

New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner July 2026

Hope House Bemidji is a comprehensive community-based support program for persons with serious and persistent mental illness.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide community support services to people with serious and persistent mental illness so they can live in the community in the least restrictive setting, function at their best level, and reduce the need for involuntary hospitalization.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to be so good at providing services and educating the community that someday our program is no longer needed.

Community Support Program Services

Social skills and supports
Benefits assistance
Medication monitoring
Obtaining employment
Housing/food/daily living
Family support
Protection of client rights
Set goals and plans
Reduce costly or restrictive placements
Outreach, including well checks, problem solving



SERVICES

Naadamaagewinan

- Community Support Program (CSP)
- ARMHS (Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services)
- Medication Education, Monitoring, and Prescribing
- Daytime Drop-in Center, including Cultural Activities
- Link to 24 Hour Community-Wide Crisis Line
- Diagnostic Assessments
- Consumer (Client) Speakers' Program

God's Work, Our Treasure—JULY 2026

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, the **Hope House**, 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 **Hope House**

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

www.hopehousebemidji.org/



***Help us build a
Community
Labyrinth!
After service on
Sunday, July 12***

The labyrinth will be built under the pine trees along the driveway. It will have a 4-circuit design, the paths would be a generous 52 inches wide, which measurement would also include one row of rocks so depending on the size of the rocks, the open path would average about 46 inches, making it accessible for those using walkers or wheel chairs. Using this model, the number of rocks you would need is 895 in the 6-inch size.

Lisa Gidlow-Moriarty, a Master Labyrinth Designer, will design the labyrinth, use environmentally safe paint. On July 12th, following worship, Lisa will be here to guide us as we build the labyrinth. The labyrinth is intended for the whole community, as a place to quietly walk in the presence of God's creation.

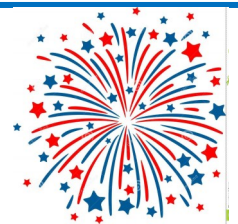
Stay after the service and help us build one! Enjoy free lunch, fellowship, and some smiles!

Be sure to wear your work clothes and bring some gloves, we will



United States Semiquincentennial

The United States Semiquincentennial will be the 250th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence. Festivities are marking various events leading up to the Declaration's anniversary on the 250th Independence Day.



The Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, voted for the independence of the United Colonies by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2, 1776. The Declaration of Independence was proclaimed on July 4, the date on which the anniversary of independence is observed. There were no major government-sponsored 50th anniversary observances on July 4, 1826, which was the day that the Founding Fathers and former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died. In 1876, the United States organized nationwide centennial observances centered on the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, in 1926, a Sesquicentennial Exposition was held in Philadelphia, and in 1976, bicentennial observances were held throughout the country.

New Salem Lutheran Church Endowment 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.

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.

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.

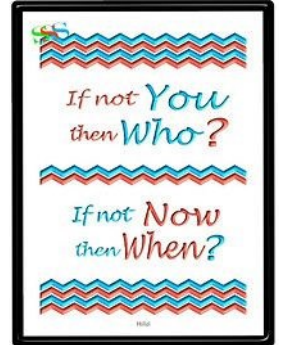


The Service Group Needs a President

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.**

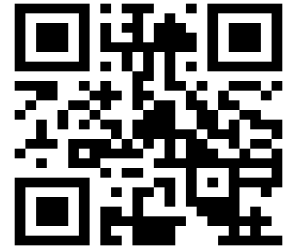


Do you know that you can support the mission of New Salem electronically?

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.

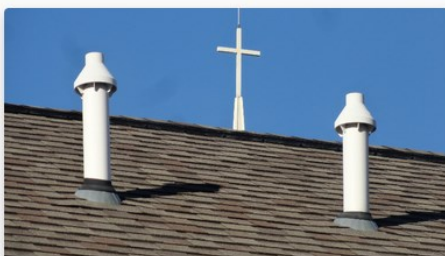


Mission Partners

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.