



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

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MARCH 2023

Upcoming Events

March
1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Lenten Services
7:00 PM

March 2, 9, 16, 23
9:30 AM
Bible Study



March 12



March 17



March 18
Great Synod
Get Together
@ First Lutheran
in Bemidji
9am—3pm



March 19
Feast of
Saint
Joseph

March 21
Teams Meet
6:00-7:00 PM
Council 7:00 PM



Sisters and brothers in Christ, greetings.

A couple of weeks ago, someone sent me a quote from scripture (a very good one) that was their Mantra for the week. It got me thinking, do others have mantras or words they follow to guide their words, actions, and spiritual growth? Is there a favorite scripture passage they hold near their hearts that influences their actions, thoughts, and comments?

I see great value in having a mantra, phrase, or passage in scripture as a focal point and a go-to when we have questions about our lives, thoughts, words, and actions. One popular several years ago was "What Would Jesus Do?" WWJD

When I come across a passage in scripture, a poem, or a phrase that speaks to my heart, I'll hold on to it till I'm ready to move on, finding another as my guide, as many of us may do. From my experience, it's been a good practice to have one as it encourages me to think a little more, act differently, or use different words when speaking.

Many passages or stories in scripture make good guides for our lives and are suitable even to memorize. One familiar to many is **John 3:16-17** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but so that the world might be saved through him. This has been called the gospel in a nutshell. This is a statement of our faith, a reminder of God's amazing love, and a great passage of scripture for Lent.

Luke 10:27 He (Jesus) answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." This is a good passage when checking our thoughts, words, and actions.

When picking a guiding passage or phrase, I encourage all to decide if it is one you want to remember and use and is of sound Christian principles and values. One of the temptations we face is taking things at face value. In my experience, this can lead us down a road Christ wouldn't have us travel. A mantra or passage can be an excellent spiritual practice, and I encourage you to search for one.

Joy and Peace, Pr. Terry



Palm Sunday, April 2nd: Service at 9:30 am
Maundy Thursday, April 6th: Service at 6:30 pm
Good Friday, April 7th: Service at 6:30 pm
Easter Sunday, April 9th: Sunrise Service at 7:00 am and Resurrection Service at 9:30 am

Meet your 2023 New Salem Council
President: Rick Bogart Vice Pres: Jon Severson
Secretary: Eric Medberry Treasurer: Sue Rosselet
Calli Ferdig Dave Johnson
Myra Lindahl Fred Sanford 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 3rd Tuesday of each month



W.A.M.M.

Returns

Wednesday

April 12th

Join us for a

light supper

**Lessons and Activities
for the Children**

Watch for future
announcement about how you
can help and be involved.



Easter Flowers

Help decorate our sanctuary
for Easter Sunday.

\$17 for an Easter Lily

\$6 for a red geranium



Order forms are available on the table in the narthex
or the last page of this newsletter.

You can designate your flowers in-honor of or
in-memory of loved ones.

Envelopes are available so you can include payment
with your order.

Deadline for orders is March 19



**Thank You
to Dan Hogquist
for installing the second
handrail by the altar and
increasing safety for
those using the lectern.**



Next summer's VBS will
be held from

**Monday, July 31st
through**

Thursday, August 3rd

Mark your calendars and watch for future
announcements about how you can be a part
of this fun-filled week.

Readings for March

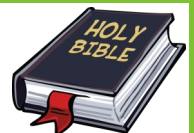
March 5: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

March 12: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

March 19: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

March 25: Annunciation of Our Lord Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 45; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

March 26: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45





New Salem Council Minutes Meeting of February 21, 2023

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by V.P. Jon Severson.

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

Devotion were led by Pastor Terry - Next month will be Rick

Approval of the February 21st, 2022 Meeting Agenda: Dave moved to approve the agenda; Myra seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the January 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Sue moved to approve the previous minutes; Calli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Update: ● Lenten theme and worship ○ Journey with Jonah - greatest comic strip ever made
○ Services will be Wednesdays at 7:00 pm ● No confirmation classes during Lent; students are expected to attend worship on Wednesdays and take sermon notes. ● PRN Hospice Chaplain duties have increased on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons; Visiting NS shut-ins on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Rosselet: ● Review of budget approved at the annual meeting ● Comparison between Jan 2022 and Jan 2023 ○ We are in the black to start the year! ● New format to review our income and expenses ○ Easy to read and very informative ● Discussion about percentages and yearly numbers ● Discussion of expense spikes throughout the year.

● Monthly offering counters are needed! ○ Add the counting procedure to next month's agenda and go through it together as a group ● Report was accepted and filed

Old Business: ● Comments and discussion about the annual meeting ○ All went well

New Business: ● Election of new officers ○ Current officers each agreed to continue; Calli moved to maintain current executive officers, Fred seconded. Motion carried.

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

● Education ○ Planning for Spring reset of WAMM was discussed ■ Decided to start the Wednesday after Easter; 4/12
■ Create a post-Easter event and work on getting volunteers signed up for WAMM
○ Pathways Summer Program was discussed ■ Hope to have an earlier drop-off time 7:30 to 1pm
■ First week August ■ Perhaps include Confirmation students as additional volunteers
■ Pastor Terry will reach out to Pathways ● We will order materials and we will teach the lessons and work with the Pathways staff ○ All tentative on contacting families and getting feedback from them
○ Also discussed summer family days/activities outside of church
○ All other Teams did not meet

Other Items

● Programable thermostats ○ Jon is willing to go to Menards to price out options ○ Rick doesn't think that programable thermostats will be cost efficient because activities change nearly every week ■ Discussion ensued and we will revisit next month

● Creating a Finance Team

○ Treasurer puts together the monthly financial support in advance of the council meeting ○ Finance Team meets, reviews, and is the extra set of eyes ○ Council gets reviewed and perhaps revised report
■ Sue moved to create a Finance Team for this purpose; Dave seconded. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: ● Tuesday, March 21st at 7 pm. ○ Teams will meet at 6pm.

Adjournment/Lord's Prayer: ● Meeting adjourned at 8:03

Eric Medberry, Recording

The New Year at the food shelf is off to a busy start!

Here are some stats from January:

809 -Total Households

2507 - Total Individuals

51.442 - Pounds of Food Distributed

154 - First Time Customers



Well done, Volunteers! All this was accomplished ONLY due to the help of the community: donors, volunteers, and staff. Thank you to all!

A special shout out to everyone that participated in the **Birthday Bag** project! Many hands made many bags, which will bring much joy to clients with birthdays during the coming weeks. New Salem donated **122** bags to the food shelf this month – THANK YOU for your continued generosity to this ministry. Clients very much appreciate being recognized on their special day.



In February, we were thrilled to welcome new volunteers to the New Salem team – THANK YOU to those who made the decision to join the fun! If you'd like to check it out, there are three shifts to choose from each month. This month's shifts are: Friday, Mar. 10, from 9:00 – 12:30 and Monday, Mar. 13, from 9:00 – 12:30 and 12:00 – 3:30. Please contact me at 612-940-7312 or ksnortland5@gmail.com to get involved. All ages and

abilities are welcome and make a difference. **Come see what it's all about!**

As always, donations are welcome for this ministry. You may drop off non-perishable food and personal care items, grocery bags, and Our Family UPC labels in the church narthex. Look for the baskets near the credenza when you enter. Please note, we do NOT need egg cartons at this time.

"Love your neighbor as yourself" - Lev. 19:18

Yours in His Service,

Karin Snortland

Council of Churches Representative



Volunteers Enhance the Worship Experience for Everyone!

The 2023 Great Synod Get Together



Saturday,
March 18th
9:00-3:30

First
Lutheran
Church,
Bemidji

Come for a day
of worship,
learning, fellowship,
conference
meetings

All are invited:
Council Members,
Synod Assembly
Voting Members,
pastors, deacons,
SAMS, everyone!

Register by
March 3rd
@ nwmnsynod.org
\$50 a person

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Andrew Root,
Luther Seminary

NOTE ... register



Northwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

YOU are invited to a synod-wide day of learning and fellowship entitled, "**The Great Synod Get Together.**" Not unlike the other "Great Minnesota Get-Together," this gathering will feature a variety of engaging opportunities including inspiring worship, meaningful speakers, and workshops on the five areas of our FACES of Leadership initiative.

Faith Practices

Adaptive Leadership

Coachability

Emotional Intelligence

Storytelling

***The theme will be "Telling the Old, Old
Story for a Strange New Time."***

Together we will explore how to effectively communicate the timeless message of the gospel in a rapidly changing world. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Andy Root, will share his insight on how to reach a new generation with the message of the gospel in this era of transformational change amidst declining church attendance throughout churches in North America.

Register at <https://nwmnsynod.regfox.com/2023-great-synod-get-together>



New Salem Lutheran Church Service Group
Minutes of Meeting: February 13, 2023

Present: Sally Ellingson, Karyn Lutz, B Olson, Linda Wolden, Karin Snortland, Donna Zelinsky, Darlene Schultz, Janet Tiegen, Marge Danielson

Karyn called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm

Karyn led devotions. Karyn will lead devotions in April

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the October meeting were approved with a motion by Janet and second by B. Minutes of the December meeting were approved with one correction: Under the Rummage Sale paragraph in new business, Old Salem Town Hall was changed to Turtle River Town Hall. Motion made by B and second by Donna.

Treasurer's Report: Karin Snortland reviewed and provided a written report including a summary of activities in both the Checking and the Money Market Accounts. Report was received and filed.

Thank you's rec'd.: DAV, Pr. Terry, Traci, NWBWS, Lutheran World Relief, Salvation Army, Boys & Girls Club, Special Olympics, Evergreen, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Food Shelf, LSS, Village of Hope, Hope House, Irene Johnson – cookies, Myrtle Smetak family, Hofstad family, Northwoods Caregivers

Notes sent: Stu & Marlys Ristau

Old Business:

Purchase of new White Board for Youth Education: Donna and Karin researched and purchased a new board with approval from Pastor Terry. The old board was taken apart on Sunday and disposed of by Donna & Karin.

Funeral Thank You: Thank you to all who made bars, helped set-up, serve, and clean-up after the three funerals held recently.

New Business:

Rummage & Bake Sale: **Date set for Saturday, April 15** (contingent on checking with Tracy and Pr. Terry for church conflicts and checking on Bemidji area events for any major conflicts. [this has since been checked])

Notice will be placed in bulletin that items/boxes can be dropped off on garage shelves during times the church is open. Items/boxes can be brought inside the church during office hours starting Tuesday, April 11th. We need to get a Thrivent card to assist with advertising and supplies. Karin will cover advertising bases again.

Purchases: Purchases of additional water pitchers and dish towels approved with motion made by Mert and second by Janet.

Emails to Full Congregation: It was discussed that in the future emails will be sent to the full congregation when there is a need for bars and volunteers for funerals. Further discussion to be held with Pastor Terry on all Service Group emails being extended to the full congregation. Suggestion was also made that a verbal announcement be made and possibly a written announcement be placed in bulletin and newsletter regarding how the Service Group works and that attending the actual meetings is not mandatory to taking part in service group activities and events.

- Do we want to donate the chest freezer from the storage room? Hasn't been used in years.
- Service Group will match donations, up to \$300, to Glime family. Ask Pastor Terry to make announcement during worship the next two Sundays.
- Pastor Terry would like to become involved in Indigenous ministry in our community. Marge suggested the Synod and People's Church as resources.

Bemidji Area Churches Musician Concert: Date for New Salem is Wednesday, August 16, 2023 Birthday Bags: Birthday bags were decorated following the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm Next meeting to be announced.



April 15th





THANK YOU

To everyone who donated and helped stuff the 122 Birthday Bags for our Food Shelf

Our sincere thanks to Harmony Co-Op for supplying the bags and to Thrivent Financial for an Action Team Grant.
February 19, 2023



And

Thank You

To Pastor Terry and Dave Johnson for delivering the bags to the Food Shelf

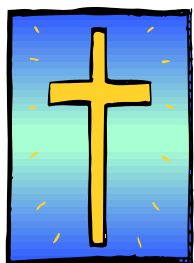




New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner
— March 2023



Bemidji Community Food Shelf



For 41 years, support from you, your friends and neighbors has ensured that we can help those who go hungry in our community.

In 2022, we experienced a **45% increase** in the numbers of people seeking help, over **9,600 families**, reaching nearly **28,000 people**, resulting in the distribution **600,000 lbs of food**.

We hope you will become a sustaining donor by contributing each month. As little as \$15 a month will make a big difference in the lives of many.

Donations made during March are partially matched. Donate to take advantage of this.

Food banks say they are expecting an increase in demand as food aid is slashed.

A "hunger cliff" is looming for millions of Americans, with 32 states (including MN) set to slash food-stamp benefits beginning in March. The cuts will impact more than 30 million people who are enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, in those states, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Households are now struggling with high food costs — groceries were about 10% higher in December than a year earlier — making the timing of the SNAP cuts particularly challenging, experts say.

That means a family of four could see their monthly benefit cut by about \$328 a month. The worst-hit could be elderly Americans who receive the minimum monthly benefit, Ellen Vollinger, the SNAP director, said. They could see their SNAP payments tumble from \$281 to as little as \$23 per month. Meanwhile, 18 states had already ended their emergency allotments early. The remaining 32 states (incl. MN) that had continued the additional aid are losing that extra money in March due to a provision in the 2023 Omnibus spending bill, signed into law in December, that directs the emergency allotments to end next month.

It may seem like an oddity that SNAP enrollment has increased given that the nation's unemployment rate is at its lowest since 1969, but many workers still can't find full-time work or line up enough hours to pay the bills. What sometimes gets missed in that conversation is the part that so many SNAP households are employed, but often employed at low-wage levels — they aren't in jobs that are family-sustaining so they still qualify for SNAP," Vollinger added.

Excerpts taken from: www.cbsnews.com/news/food-stamps-snap-benefits-cut-in-32-states-emergency-allotments-march-2023/

For as little as **\$15 dollars a month, you will provide a weeks' worth of meals for a family of 4 or a month of warm meals to a senior.**
Consider becoming a sustaining partner.



Bemidji Community Food Shelf

about a week ago



Minnesota is set to reduce snap benefits in March of this year.

God's Work, Our Treasure—March 2023

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.

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

Yes, collection plates will 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> to get to the same Vanco site.

You might also want to:

- 1.) Download the Vanco mobile app from the App store or Google Play Store
- 2.) Search for
New Salem Lutheran Church
- 3.) Follow the easy instructions to set up an account



General Fund

Support the general operations of our congregation.

Donate



Mission Partners

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

Donate



Easter Flower Order Form
Deadline to order is: March 19



of Easter Lilies @ \$17 each _____ Total: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

of red geraniums @ \$6 each _____ Total: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Your name: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____ (cash or check)

Detach and mail with your check to New Salem Lutheran Church