



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

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Church Phone: 218-586-2262

SEPTEMBER 2026

Monthly Events

September 7



September
3, 10, 17, 24
9:30 AM
Bible Study

September 11&14
Food Shelf

9:00am—
12:15pm
12:00pm—
3:15pm



God's work. Our hands.



September 13, 2026

September 15



6:00
Teams
7:00
Council

Trunk or
Treat
Oct. 31



Nov. 14
Craft &
Bake Sale

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Many will remember the phrase, **"It takes a village to raise a child."** We understood it to mean that we all have a responsibility in preparing our youth to become responsible adults.

I offer another: **"It takes a faith community to experience and share the love of Jesus."** I have talked often about how we good Lutherans are not always comfortable verbalizing our faith. I have not really taken the time to figure out why this is; I just blame it on the **"we have never done it that way before" syndrome.**

Yet, I have observed while we may not always be comfortable talking about our faith, we are very good at **living and practicing it.** We do this every day in how we care for those in our community and beyond.

I am amazed and grateful to God as I watch New Salem looks for opportunities to share the love of Jesus. We hear of an opportunity, answer the call, and get to work. It may be happening, but I have not heard negative words about those who benefit from what we do. What I have heard is putting our faith into action, living the mission to which God has called us, is one of the reasons people choose to be part of New Salem's faith community.

I am grateful for the way we live by the belief, **"If we are doing what God has called us to do, everything will work out."** What a freeing statement of faith! Instead of wasting time and energy worrying, we trust God. It reduces our stress and increases our faith.

"Without our faith community, where would we be?" Almost every Sunday, not only does ringing the bell make me smile, but watching the love flow during the sharing of the peace. There are people in the front making their way to the back of the sanctuary, and the other way around. It is much more than shaking hands and saying, "Peace be with you." We remind one another that we are seen, valued, loved, and never alone.

If you have been wondering where all of this is going, here it is: **The Holy Spirit is moving and shaking here at New Salem!** There is no other explanation. So, no, we cannot take the credit. But we can continue to listen and to watch. And when God places an opportunity before us, we can continue to answer the call. May we continue to put into action the love and grace God has so richly blessed us, trusting that the Holy Spirit is not finished with New Salem yet.

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 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: 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.



Fall Bazaar & Craft Show

New Salem's Fall Bazaar
 And Bake Sale
 will be held on
 Saturday, November 14

Start working on your wonderful crafts for New Salem's craft table! Start planning what you'll bake!



Boo! Trunk or Treat 2026 is Coming!



This year's Trunk or Treat event will be from

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 31 (Halloween!!!)

- mark your calendars!
- Watch your email and the sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall for more information
- decorate your car and join the 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.

Rehearsals are at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – come join us!



Readings for September

SEPTEMBER 6: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
 SEPTEMBER 13: Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
 SEPTEMBER 20: Jonah 3:10—4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16
 SEPTEMBER 27: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32





New Salem Council Minutes

August 18, 2026

Present: Pastor Terry, Calli Ferdig, Nora Illies, Bob Wagner, Jerry Illies, Sonya Kraft, Fred Sanford, Shannon Pitt, Paul Kraft **Absent:** Graig Gilbertson

Officers Present: President: Nora Illies, V.P.: Fred Sanford, Secretary: Calli Ferdig, Treasurer: Paul Kraft

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by Nora Illies.

Devotion – Shannon, September will be Jerry.

Approval of the August 18, 2026 Meeting Agenda:

Sonya moved to approve the agenda; Jerry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of July 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes:

Bob moved to approve the previous minutes; Jerry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

Report submitted by Paul Kraft, Treasurer. General funds contributions fell below budget for the second consecutive month.

Seasonal factors are not included in monthly anticipation fund contributions. No exceptional expense activity to report.

The separate checking account for Designated Funds is all set up and ready to go for the first week of September. Deposit forms will be updated to include the new Designated Fund. Counters will review the new process for a month and voice any recommendations for any potential updates to the counting process.

An additional increase of \$100 per month, will now be \$200 per month, going towards principal payment only to the mortgage. The additional increase is now in effect and will begin in September 2026.

Potential investment options to invest a portion of the general checking account funds. Paul has reviewed the deposit rate sheet from First National Bank and recommends a 91-day CD at a better interest rate than the checking account. Paul also recommends we wait until after the first of the New Year to make any final decisions and implement an investment plan. More to come.

Bemidji Co-op propane prebuy opportunity. Paul recommends we purchase 1,800 gallons of pre-purchase propane at the offered \$1.75/gallon for a total of \$3,150. Anticipated savings is estimated at \$612 for the year. Shannon moved to approve the purchase of pre-purchased propane; Calli seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Day Camp has been going wonderful. Good attendance and lots of fun being had by all.

Old Business:

- Pictorial directory update. Sonya has taken 47 photos so far. No set deadline but hoping to have most information and photos updates by October. Recommend that people make a point to stop by for a photo and information update when they can.
- Handicap bathroom doors installed.
- Garage has a new coat of paint. Bob said eleven people showed up, all work was done in 1.5 hours. Thankful for all the help from volunteers.
- Parking lot striping is complete.
- Outdoor Service input. The generator detracted from the intended serenity of the service and the microphones did not seem to add much value. Recommended that we not use a generator in the future. Other comments included keeping an outdoor service but holding it on the church grounds, still outdoors. Council is thankful for input; we will discuss future implementation ideas for the 2027 service. More to come.

New Business:

New electric push mower, battery operated, is desperately needed. Range in value from \$311 - \$533. Fred moved to purchase a new mower with a limit up to \$600. Shannon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The following people have met the requirements to be voting members of New Salem Lutheran Church as stated in C8.02C of the church constitution: Steve and Rita Berry, Patrick and Alicia Peterson, Emily Papke-Larson and Emily Powers, Jim Spargo, Steve and Kathy Flatt, Kris Barnes, Karin Lee, and Joan Lueth. We recommend they be declared, by this council, to be members of New Salem Lutheran Church, Turtle River, MN. Calli moved to approve the new voting members; Bob seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Team Reports

Worship and Music: Sonya reported 128 people came to the Music Series concert. Lunch was served to 93 people. The work was much appreciated by attendees. Lakeland News was at church and did a feature piece on New Salem.

Stewardship and Outreach: Nora reported that the backpacks are completed and delivered to the United Way. Thanks to all who donated school supplies. Pr. Terry suggested the team the Stewardship team start preparing at Sept 15th team meeting for commitment Sunday later in the fall. The Team will meet soon. More to come.

Continued on the next page.

Council Minutes continued:

Building and Grounds: Bob reported that the garage is now painted, thanks for all who helped. Parking lot lines are completed. Rock pile needs to be moved or used before winter. Bob suggested putting weed fabric around the labyrinth entrance to keep the weeds down. Will get input from grounds crew on their thoughts. Bell tower weeding and concern about exposed wires with nuts on the end. Suggested that someone with electrical background take a look and offer an opinion on if it is something that needs to be addressed.

Youth and Education: Day Camp is going wonderful. Record number of kids this year and all seem to be having a great time.

Next Meeting: Next meeting is Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00pm. Teams will meet at 6:00pm.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer



Autumn is upon us (let's hear it for sweat-shirt weather!), kids are heading back to school, and we're buttoning up summer homes. Our New Salem community has had a wonderful summer celebrating faith, fellowship, friends, and food. Let's keep going!

The food shelf has had a busy summer, too. Take a look:

July 2026 Stats

Individuals 3,702 (13% more than LY)
Households 1,190 (12 % more than LY)
79,192 pounds of food
First-Time Customers: 161

Year to Date (Jan.—Jul.)

Individuals 22,702
Households 7,438
606,009 pounds of food
First-Time Customers 2,324



The Food Shelf is **now hiring** a *Facilities & Maintenance Assistant*. Visit bcfsmn.org/jobs for more info. Spread the word!

September Shifts:

Friday, Sep. 11, from 9:00 – 12:15
Monday, Sep. 14, from 9:00 – 12:15
Monday, Sep. 14, from 12:00 – 3:30

Contact me at church or anytime at 612.940.7312, ksnortland5@gmail.com to join the fun!

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled... But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry." Luke 6:20-21, 24-25

In His Service,

Karin Snortland

612.940.7312

ksnortland5@gmail.com

Council of Churches Representative



Church Musicians Recital August 5th



Need Medical Equipment?

Have Medical Equipment?

If you are in need of medical equipment, call and/or come to the Bemidji Senior Center (216 3rd St NW, 218-751-8836, in downtown Bemidji) Mon – Fri 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. to see what is available through the HELP program

(Home Equipment Loan Program). The item(s) can be checked out and used as long as needed. The Senior Center also accepts used-clean-workable equipment.

The Disabled American Veterans (15th Street NW, 218-556-4592, in Bemidji) also has equipment to loan. The DAV has electric hospital beds/etc.; the Senior Center **does not** have any electrical equipment to loan out. You do not have to be a veteran borrow the DAV equipment.

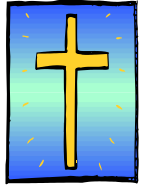




New Salem's Highlighted Mission Partner

September 2026

Village of Hope



Village of Hope provides safe, secure emergency housing for families 24 hours/day ~ 7 days a week. We are open 365 days a year.

The environment that a family experiencing homeless comes into is very important. We work to create a calm, safe environment in which families can build a future.

What is our definition of family? Each family is unique and has their own composition.

They do need to be looking to move into a house together.

Each family has their own apartment. This preserves the family unit and provides privacy.

We have single moms with kids, single dads with kids, sisters raising kids together, grandparents raising kids and couples. Every combination possible!

There is no "one size fits all" solution for homelessness. Every family has unique barriers and requires a intervention that fits. The case manager will begin this process by talking with the family and helping them set goals they want to achieve and looking at strengths and barriers to overcome. Then the networking starts! We work with many agencies and organizations to create the family future.

Many families come to Village of Hope already working, but if they are not and that is a goal, we assist them in finding the right fit, filling out applications and working with the employer. Community contribution is a powerful human need and we recognize and support that.

Because graduation is one factor in success, attending school is very important at Village of Hope. We work with the district 31 Homeless Liaison for transitions to help kids stay in their own school or get them registered if school is new. Keeping the routine of attending school is a goal.

Life skills are the skills that many people take for granted, like managing money, shopping, cooking, running a home and maintaining social networks. Some people experiencing homelessness do not have all of these skills, either because they never acquired them or because they lost them through extended periods of homelessness. Helping those experiencing homelessness acquire life skills can help them move on from homelessness and resettle into the community. By working together, and building relationships, we start to rebuild their confidence and hope.

God's Work, Our Treasure—SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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

bemidjivillageofhope.org



Welcome
DAY CAMP
2026

August 17-20



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.



School Supplies



Did you know that 1 in 4 children may start the school year without the necessary resources? Lacking the essential supplies can impact children's self-esteem and view of learning. Together, we can make a difference and ensure every child has the tools to succeed. Your help can transform lives and foster a brighter future!



Thank you to everyone who donated supplies for the backpacks that New Salem donated to the United Way. If you or anyone you know need school supplies notebooks, paper pencils or anything please reach out to the United Way of the Bemidji Area, the Village of Hope, the Boys & Girls Club of Bemidji and Blackduck or directly to the child's school.

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



**We need
YOU!**

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

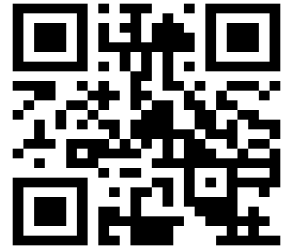


Do you know that you can support the mission of New Salem electronically?

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.