



Salem Lutheran Weekly eNews 8/26/26—9/2/26

"To share the unconditional love of God in Jesus Christ with all people, and to serve God by serving others"

As an Interim Pastor, I am new to the ministry of Salem Lutheran. It is a good thing to remember this. Even as the 'in-between pastor', I must allow myself opportunity for growth and learning, as well as setbacks and frustrations. It is easy to forget that being here is a new thing, for me and for you. So much of what I do, I have done before, so many of the situations I am placed in are familiar.

As pastor, I have many responsibilities. I visit people in the hospital or care centers or in their homes. There is a special obligation and expectation that God's word of comfort and presence will be spoken and heard. I attend many meetings and as pastor there is a special obligation and expectation to participate as a servant of the community of faith. I participate in many different worship services and as pastor there is a special obligation and expectation that worship be led with integrity, insight, and skill.

But is any of this so different from your life as a person of faith? Actually, each of us has special obligations and expectations because we are followers of Jesus Christ. We are called to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. While many days find these tasks familiar, at other times we forget God and care little for our neighbor. Then it is good to hear Martin Luther say that each day we return to our baptism. We cling to the promise of God as if it were new every morning. Every day we begin again, forgiven, loved and free to live as God's chosen people. Every once in a while, each of us needs to be reminded that we are people who begin anew each day. Our baptism is not simply a point of time in our past. Rather, living in our baptism is a continuing journey of faith.

Baptism is God's promise of a lifetime of new beginnings. This is grace at work. Thanks be to God!

Shalom, Pastor Deanna

Sunday, September 6 - Creation in Christ Sunday

Creation in Christ celebrates the ongoing creation of the world in and through Christ, who sustains, unites, and holds all created things. We hear today of the triune God who creates all things: sun and moon, shining stars, sea monsters, creeping things and flying birds—and, yes, even human beings. God-in-Christ still takes care of all things and invites us to join in as caretakers of God's good creation.



January-July 2026

Total Income \$ 232,543

Total Expenses \$ 216,952

I Love to Tell the Story Potluck

Join us for the "I Love to Tell the Story" Potluck! Salem Lutheran isn't just a building; it is a collection of beautiful stories written by God through our shared commitment to this community. On **October 4** following worship, we are gathering for a special story-driven potluck. Come hungry for great food, and ready to hear (and perhaps tell) great stories.

What to bring: Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

The Story Challenge: If your dish has a story (an old family recipe, a comfort food from a hard time, or something you make for celebrations), grab a label card at the door to share its history!



It's that time again! Men's Bible study is back starting Monday Sept 14th at 8am in the library. Mark you calendars for the 2nd Monday of the month.

"Sewing for Others" will be meeting Wednesday, Sept 2nd at 9:15am.





Remember the Scouting Join Night Tuesday, Sept 8 at 7pm.

Come join Bonnie as she leads a study on Psalms. She will meet in the library Tuesdays at 11:00 am.

Below is the Zoom link for Tuesday's meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8470166768?pwd=NGRhU5GN09sdWZWb0UvcHQ1NExzdz09&omn=88349846475>



NW Synod Website

The Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA is our partner in ministry. Visit their site and you'll see resources, prayers, social media connections, directories, calendars, events, information on the larger church' work, social statements and news.



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