

# The Parish Communicator

Newsletter for Falun/Salemsborg Lutheran Parish

February 2007



On a scale of one to 10, 10 being the best ever and one being really awful, where would you rate your relationship with God? Are you at a one? Are you at a 10? Somewhere in between?

Now, look at your life, what do you see? Are you really busy? Are you really stressed? Are you bored? Are you wondering how much life is still in you? Are you thinking about death? Are you wondering why nobody cares? Are you happy? Excited? Somewhere in between?

On any given day, I could answer these questions in a lot of ways and each day the answer would probably be different. But the questions about my relationship with God and the questions about my life remain, I guess that's normal. There are so many things that can influence my life, my responses. There are so many things I don't have control over.

I guess that's why Lent is so important to me. It is a time when I can focus on my relationship with God. It is a time when I can focus on my life. It is a time the Word reaches out to me and tries to grab hold of me to get me to focus on the important things. It is a time when the Word tries to break into my busy life, my bored life, my short life, to let me know what God thinks about things. It is a time when the Word confronts me, comforts me.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 21st. On this day, we begin our journey with the Word. We will meet on this day at Salemsborg as a parish at 7:00 pm. On future Wednesday nights, we will gather as a parish at Salemsborg to break bread together and have a short worship service. Many of us may say that we are too busy to take the time, it just doesn't fit into my schedule. Many of us may say, Salemsborg isn't my church so I'm not going. Many of us may say, who needs it. Many of us may say, we can't get out there, the old body just can't do it anymore at night. Many of us may say, if it weren't for the kids. Many of us may say.....

I don't know what you are saying, but I will write you these parting words. I hope and pray that all of us, at sometime, at someplace, remember Lent. I hope and pray that all of us are moved by the Spirit that we may grow in faith and as a Body of Christ during Lent. And as the Word and Spirit move in and around us, may all of us remember what's important in life and in death—God's grace, God's forgiveness, God's gift to us in Christ.

On a scale from one to 10 how's your relationship with God?  
How's Life? How's life?  
God's Peace!  
Pastor Ethan

## Annual Meetings

The annual meetings for Falun and Salemsborg have been rescheduled. Snow caused the cancellation of both meetings. The new date set is February 18, 2007.

### Salemsborg Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 18th

Beginning after a shortened 9:00 a.m. worship service with Holy Communion

There will be no Sunday School—the older Sunday School youth will be in charge of watching over young ones during the meeting

There will be coffee and fellowship after the meeting as usual.

### Falun Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 18th

Beginning after a shortened 11:00 am worship service with Holy Communion

After the meeting, there will be a soup dinner.

All active confirmed members of the congregations are encouraged to attend the meetings and can vote.

Please plan to attend! Annual meetings are an important part of the life of the Church.

### Salemsborg Lutheran Mission Statement

“We at Salemsborg have so benefited from the gifts of God's love, peace, strength and joy through Jesus, that we seek to share these same gifts with others in grateful response!”

### Falun Lutheran Mission Statement

“As children of God, we strive to love, care for, and inspire one another as we extend the grace of Christ to all.”

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## Many Thanks

"On October 14, 2006 we attended the Roets Family Reunion. It was twenty six years since we had been in the Salemsborg area. We lived in Axel and Lilly Bengtson's old farmhouse from 1971 to 1978. Our two oldest sons attended the Lindsborg and Falun grade schools. We sure miss the Bengtsons and the area.

We would like to tell you what a wonderful building you have for all types of gatherings. It was very spacious with lots of seating and a well equipped kitchen facility. We did not go upstairs but we were informed that there was a game room for children. What a great source of pride for your congregation.

Mike and I were simply thrilled and delighted that the Board agreed to accept our offer to remove the playground slide and merry-go-round from the church property. You may be assured that we appreciate the nostalgic qualities of the equipment. The slide and merry-go-round will make a wonderful addition to our grandchildren's play area in our backyard.

Thank you every so much and convey our personal thanks to everyone. Please accept this small donation for the church. Thank you!! Mike & Pam Roets"

"Dear Salemsborg Church Family; Thank you so much for the scholarship money. It will help me as I continue my studies in mechanical engineering at K-State. Your support and love mean so much to me. Thanks again, Jason Carlson"

"Thank you for your loyalty in this fight against hunger and suffering. You truly make a difference in others lives! May God bless you for your love. Sincerely, Salina Emergency Aid/Foodbank, Emily Hoyt"

Many thanks to Phil Kampfe, Becky Pihl and Greg Nichols for sharing their talents during the Christmas season. Thanks to Phil also for filling in for Pat when the weather prevented her from being at Salemsborg.

## Baptism at Salemsborg

Congratulations Hensli Lofdahl on your baptismal day, Sunday, January 7th, 2007! May God bless you and keep you as you grow in faith and years! Hensli's parents are Terry and Kylie Lofdahl and her sponsors are Derek Schrader, Spencer Schrader, Adam Lofdahl and Dustin Lofdahl. May all of you be great examples of the faith to Hensli and may you all remember that we, as fellow members of the Body of Christ, are here for you if you need anything! Congratulations to all!

## New Members at Salemsborg

Welcome to new members Daniel & Lori Scott and their children Tanner, Taryn and Trace. Their family joined our congregation on Sunday, January 7th, 2007. We look forward to spreading the good news about Jesus the Christ with them!

## Benefit for Barnett's

There will be a brunch fund raiser for the Barnett family on Sunday, February 4th in the Salemsborg Fellowship Center. Since members of the Parish will be involved, there will be one worship service on that Sunday. It will be at Salemsborg beginning at 10:00 am. The brunch will follow. A freewill offering will be collected and matching funds will be applied for through Thrivent. No Sunday School that day

## Theophilus Fellowship Super Bowl Party

The Theophilus Super Bowl Party will be taking place in the Salemsborg Fellowship Center on Sunday, February 4th. It will be projected in the multi-purpose room. We ask that you bring munchies to share and your favorite beverage. You may also want to bring a comfy chair to sit on if you like. Are you ready for some good food, good fellowship and good football? Well, maybe two out of three!

## An Evening with Gracia Burnham

The public is invited to an evening with Gracia Burnham on Sat., Feb. 3rd at 7p.m. The event will be held at the Brown Grand Theatre, 310 W. 6th St., Concordia, KS. A free-will offering will be taken. For information call 785-243-4032.

## Pastor's Day Off

Beginning in February, Pastor Ethan's day off will be Saturday during the school year unless there is a wedding or funeral or other unavoidable things. We ask that you only contact him on Saturday if there is an emergency.

## Confirmation Parents

Parents of 8th grade confirmation students will be meeting on February 10th at 9:00 a.m. to discuss Confirmation Sunday.

## Falun Lutheran Women

The Falun Lutheran Women's Program is at Bethany Home Activity Center on Wednesday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. Joyce Peterson will present a program on "Hats & Purses-A Century of Change". You are invited to wear a hat and/or bring a purse and share it's significance. Please bring a dessert or healthy snack.

Invite a friend and enjoy a fun evening.

## Food Bank Sunday

Food Bank Sunday is the first Sunday of each month. Below is a list of items suggested as possible donations each month.

However, any item you would like to give will be greatly appreciated. A basket is located next to the front door of the church for your convenience.

January--shampoo

**February--Ramen Noodles**

March--canned meat stew

April--coffee & tea bags

May--sugar

June--baking mixes

July--instant potatoes

August--dish soap

September--tooth brushes & toothpaste

October--toilet paper

November--salt & pepper

December--laundry soap

If you need to contact Donna Swanson with information for the bulletin or newsletter, you can call 668-2600 or email her at [donlee@hometelco.net](mailto:donlee@hometelco.net). Thanks

If you would like to access information regarding Bethany College and/or events taking place there go to [www.bethanylb.edu](http://www.bethanylb.edu)

Please contact Pastor Ethan or Donna Swanson if there are names that can be removed from our prayer list. Contact them as well if you would like to add someone

We remember in prayer those who have been brought to our attention: The Barnett family, Carol Brown, Gerald Walter, Mary Tillberg's aunt, Vivian Johnson, Denise Carson, Mindy Graham's mother, Pastor Steven Little, Leigh Heller, Norma Oborg, families grieving a loss, people recovering from surgery, Joan Garman, Bill Robinson, families in conflict, Jay Cromwell, Deb Talbott, Kathy Sadey, Deb Meyers, Brenda Kent, A.J. Holmquist, Tina Peterson's cousin, Major Sheldon Horsfall, Jade Pihl, Shane Tunison, Janet Rowland, Dean Wahl, Connie Gratney, Diane Williams, Beth Reed, Carolyn Johnson, Marjorie Oleen, Viola Miller, Wayne Goodell, Karen Miller, Rosella Oleen, and Irene Dauer. If we have forgotten anyone, we apologize. Please let us know so we can include them next time.

#### IN MEMORY

*Dewey Edward Tate*

August 3, 1919--December 23, 2006



Dewey Edward Tate, 87, of Falun, KS, died December 23, 2006.

Mr. Tate was born August 3, 1919, at Vandalia, Illinois, the son of Charles and Teresa (Anderson) Tate.

He had been a resident of Falun since 1963, moving from Decatur, Illinois.

On December 15, 1945, he married Lois Wolf in Chicago, Illinois. She died July 26, 1996.

Survivors include a daughter, Gail Backhus of Falun, one granddaughter, Kellie Piersee of Hastings, NE, and one great-grandson, Kane Piersee, of Hastings, NE.

Mr. Tate was a veteran of World War II and a member of the Falun Lutheran Church.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, December 28, at the Falun Lutheran Church, with burial in the Falun Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Lindsborg Community Hospital or Riverview Estates of Marquette, KS.