



THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR



NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH



JANUARY 2010

FROM THE PASTOR

Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, pg. 63

Time marches on! You cannot stop it! We have all heard these phrases or something like them. They are statements of fact. I guess that is why the first line of the prayer caught my attention. It really speaks volumes in my mind. Would you mind reading the prayer again? Thanks.

God has placed us in a world that time marches on. God has placed us in a world of continuous motion. God also blesses us through the motion through different events. God's love is always active in, with and under the time and space of this life, of this world. What a great way to look at things! God is always at work! God is always active!

In this new year, God is with us. We pray that God will help us to see God at work. We pray that we may respond to the grace and love God has shown to us in Jesus. We pray that we may feel God's presence and live in hope, live in the light!

I don't know what time and space you are going through in your life as you read this article. I can't understand everything that you are going through. It may be a very emotional time for you. I can't tell for sure. I do know this—God is with you! God has placed you in this world and hasn't left you alone. God's love and grace is in, with and under you! The light is shining!

My prayer for all of us is that we may live in the light! We may live in the joy that God has given us in Christ no matter what we are going through in this space and time! We may feel Jesus with us! We may not doubt but believe!

Would you read the prayer above one more time? May God's Holy Spirit work and lead that all may know and experience the blessing of God in this space and time, in this new year of 2010!

A Blessed and Happy New Year!
Pastor Ethan

Special Thanks

We want to thank all of you for the generosity you once again showed us this Christmas and through out last year. We can never express our thanks enough for all that you have done for us and do for us. We are so blessed! God really has used you to make a difference in our lives. We are so blessed to know you. We are so blessed to be part of this community. We are so blessed to have been given permission to be part of your lives. You are the best! Thank you so much for all the gifts you have given, you have touched our lives! You have moved our hearts! God bless you and thank God for all of you!

Pastor, Kellie and Alex

Joint Parish Worship Service

There will be a joint Parish worship service at Salemsborg the last Sunday of January. It will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a potluck meal following. Please plan to attend this special event, it is a great way to build up the Body of Christ.

More Thanks

Special thanks to everyone who participated in the Christmas Program on December 20th. We appreciate you sharing your time and talents to glorify God!

Molly Johnson and Nita Kay Carlson

Thanks to the few but mighty who braved the fog to carol last Sunday night, it is appreciated! You let God use you to proclaim the gospel and let people know they are not forgotten.

I would like to thank the WELCA group for the delicious baked goods and other treats. The gesture was very much appreciated and helped to make the holiday season that much more special. Thank you all for your kindness.

Craig & Dylan Goodell

Thanks so much to the Parish Carolers who came to sing for us. Thanks also for the delicious basket of food & "goodies" they brought. Sincerely, Almeda Ryding.

Thanks to the Salemsborg WELCA for the beautiful poinsettia they brought to me. I am enjoying it so much.

Thanks again, Almeda Ryding

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."

Food Bank Sunday

Food Bank Sunday is the first Sunday of each month. Below is an updated list of items suggested as possible donations each month. However, any item you would like to give will be greatly appreciated. A box is located next to the front door of the church for your convenience.

January--Cold Cereal

February--Flour

March--Sugar

April--Jelly

May--Small boxes Biscuit Mix

June--Small boxes cornbread mix

July--All kinds of pasta (particularly egg noodles)

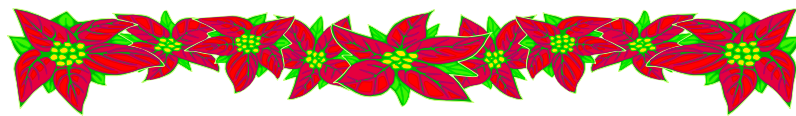
August--Canned Fruit

September--tooth brushes & toothpaste

October--toilet paper

November--Canned Veggies (particularly peas & corn)

December--All kinds of soup



Poinsettias Given in Memory

or Honor of Loved Ones

- *Cecil & Evelyn Peterson in memory of loved ones (Altar)
- *Dale & Marilyn Johnson in memory of loved ones (Altar)
 - *Ron & Audrey Miller in memory of loved ones
 - *Don & Betty Pihl in memory of Wallace Pihl & loved ones
 - *The Wimer family in memory of loved ones
- * Wayne Carlson & family in memory of Edgar Swenson, August Carlson, and Ted Bjorkman
- *Craig and Dylan Goodell in memory of Kellie and Wayne & Lila Goodell
- * David Stamm family in memory of Hal Patrick Smith and Kenneth H. Stamm
- *David Stamm family in memory of Billie Marie DeWitt
- *Rex Tjaden family in memory of loved ones
- *Almeda Ryding & family in memory of Amos Ryding and loved ones
- *Karen Liljestrand and Cathi Englund & family in memory of loved ones
- *Paul & Marilyn Brown in memory of loved ones
- *Nancy Anderson in loving memory of Dave Anderson
 - *Debbie & Dana & families in loving memory of Dave Anderson
 - *Warren & Debbie Johnson in loving memory of Marvin, Carroll and Kenneth Johnson
 - *Kendall Pihl family in memory of loved ones
- *Myrl & Fairlene Swanson in memory of loved ones
- *Diane Surface & James Deckard in memory of our loved ones Brad Surface and Becky Deckard
 - *Leon & Donna Swanson in memory of Kari, Josh and loved ones
 - *Wesley & Karissa Shultis in memory of Kari and Josh



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 family and friends of Mike Smith, Brothers of the Hearn--Walter Young & Phil Young, Paul Brown, Carl Hershberger, Michael Wineteer (Pat Stamm's father), Emery Frost, Mike Brown, Kristi Northcutt's dad Steve, The Lemen family, Edna Kvacik, John Meyer (Karla Pihl's cousin), Roger Bulson (Kathy Rishel's step-brother), Ted Hodges, The people of New Orleans who were affected by Katrina, especially Kim, VirgieAnn Talley and their families, Beth Northcutt, McClure/Jaso family, Roger Pihl family, Leland Tillberg, Art Barnett, Jaden McBride, Mary Craig, Nikki Driscoll, Don Cheever, Calvin Carlson, Marie Nelson, Axel Thomas, Gordon Gladden, Ron & Gayla Bloyd, Malcom Stambaugh, Kristy Bergstrom, Cal Williams, Caden Wekamp, Carlina Swisher, Rebecca Copley Johnson, Seretha Johnson, Jennifer Hoffmans, Leann Marr, Vickie Everhardt, Allen Nicholson, Tom Hollopeter, Harry Sandahl, Jim & Karen Gooch, Evelyn Peterson's daughter Kathy, Mary Tillberg's aunt, Pastor Steven Little, Joan Garman, families in conflict, Kathy Sadey, Diane Williams, Carolyn Johnson, Marjorie Oleen, Viola Miller. We also pray for many unspoken requests. If we have missed anyone, please let us know.

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Ethan and family will be on vacation from December 25th through January 1 celebrating Christmas with family. In case of an emergency, please contact your Council president. They will have the name and number of the pastor who is covering for Pastor Ethan. Please keep the Feistners in your prayers for safe travel, it is appreciated!

Thank You

A big thank you to all who served or donated gifts and cookies for Bethany Home or helped with the Christmas program at Falun. A good time was had by all.

Changes to Parish Prayer List

On Sunday, January 3rd, 2010, we will make a trial change to the Parish Prayer List. We are going to clear the entire list off at the beginning of each month and if someone wants a person on the list, they can let us know. We will also be asking what relationship that person may be to the Parish family (i.e. Leann Marr, Pastor Ethan's sister battling cancer). When we do that, we can have a clean slate at the beginning of each month and make the list more up to date.

Worship Service Time Changes

Don't forget! On Sunday, January 3rd, 2010, the times for worship will change in accordance with the Parish agreement. Falun worship will be at 9:00 a.m. and the Salemsborg worship will be at 11:00 a.m. Sunday school and coffee times will change at each church as well. Falun coffee time will be at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Salemsborg Sunday School will be at 9:30am and coffee time at 10:30 a.m.

Parish Annual Meetings

The Parish Annual Meetings will be held on Sunday, February 7th, 2010. At Falun, the meeting will be held after a shortened worship service which will begin at 9:00am. At Salemsborg the meeting will begin after a shortened worship service which will begin at 11:00am. All active, confirmed members are expected to participate in the meetings. The deadline for all reports needed to make up the annual meeting report is Sunday, January 10th.

Printer Cartridges to Help the Church

Used printer cartridges from your home printers can be recycled and used to help with the cost of office supplies here at the church. Each cartridge can be redeemed at Office Max for a \$3 credit and up to 10 can be turned in each month. Credits can be used to buy paper and other office supplies which are needed. A box is in the basement and those who would like to help can drop them off anytime. Donna will collect them and turn them in for the credits. Thank you for your help! Office Max has let us know that they only offer the \$3 credit for HP, Dell and Lexmark cartridges. We can drop other brands for recycling....we just won't get a credit for them.

Thanks so much to everyone who has dropped off their used cartridges so far. We have been able to use the credits to buy paper and labels for the church.

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Parish Notes

Thanks so much to Ann McConkey for sharing the message at Salemsborg on November 29th.

Confirmation was held on Saturday, December 5th beginning at 9:00 am. We discussed the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

A Parish Chick Movie Night was held at the Salemsborg Fellowship Center on December 5th. Bible Study/Fellowship at 6:00, movie following at 7:00pm. Everyone brought snacks to share.

Items were brought to Salemsborg on Dec. 13th for the Emergency Aid/Food Bank in honor of St. Lucia. St. Lucia was once a young woman with a very big heart. She was in a position of affluence that could have allowed her to ignore or look upon the poor in disdain. Instead, her faith in God motivated her to help the needy at considerable risk to herself. The light within her shone bright. We appreciate all who brought needed food items to church so that they could be distributed to OUR needy.

Sunday, Dec. 6th, the UYG left after worship to go Christmas shopping for a local family who could use some good cheer this year. After shopping, the youth headed back to the Fellowship Center for pizza and to wrap the gifts. What a great way to proclaim Christ's love!

An online Town Hall forum with ELCA Bishop Mark S. Harmon was held Dec. 6th at 5:30pm. Directions were posted on the bulletin board for those wanting to participate.

Parish Christmas Caroling was held on Sunday, December 13th! We left Salemsborg and headed for Salina at 4:00 sharp. After Salina, we went to Lindsborg. After carolling, we came back to Salemsborg for soup. Thanks to the few but mighty who braved the fog to carol, it is appreciated! You let God use you to proclaim the gospel and let people know they are not forgotten. Thanks so much!

The Christmas Programs at Falun and at Salemsborg were held on Dec. 20th. What a wonderful way to celebrate the birth of our Lord!

The Ding-A-Lings spread their holiday cheer on Dec. 19th and Dec 23rd.

Last-minute Christmas Gift Ideas—See Dale Johnson for a good deal on Salemsborg plates, ornaments and spoons. Cookbook money goes to Dennis Zimmerman for the Growth Project/Window Fund.

At Salemsborg the noisy offering for the month of December along with the offering gathered at the Christmas Program event on Sun, Dec. 20th and the offering dedicated at the Christmas Eve Service will all be going to the family of Rosa Gomez. Rosa died in the shooting at the Ramada Inn in Salina that happened in October. She left behind a family of 5 ranging from the age of 3 to 19 years of age. Gala Bloyd was a friend and co-worker. Please keep the family in your prayers, pray about how much you can give, it is appreciated!

The Noisy Offering at Falun for the months of Dec., Jan. & Feb. will be Bethany College Campus Ministries.

A Christmas Offering will be taken during children's music. The children brought loose change. The money collected was used to purchase gifts for the Angel Tree.