

# THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR

NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH

JANUARY 2009

## Pastor's notes

We are about to begin the month of February. It seemed January went by awfully fast. I guess time seems to go by faster when one gets older.

When I think of the month of February, love comes to mind. Why do you think love comes to my mind? Well, if you said that it is because of Valentine's Day, you are partially correct. After all, Valentine's Day is all about love and sweet things. But, you are only partially correct.

What other reason do you think love comes to my mind? Well, I'm sure some of you guessed it. It's because the season of Lent begins on February 25th.

I think of love when I think of Lent for some good reasons. I think of how much I need God's love; a love shown through forgiveness and grace. I think of how many times I try to put a wall up between God and myself only to have God knock it down with love. I think of how great it is that everyday I can turn back towards God, confessing my sins, and he cleans me. What a wonderful loving God we have! What a wonderful God to love a sinner like me! What a God of love!

My prayer for all of us is that we would experience God's love. We would use those special days in February to turn back to God and the relationship God wants with all of us. There are some of us who don't observe Lent. We get wrapped up in our own lives and in our own walls. I pray that all of us may realize God's love for us and in turn love each other. I pray that this Lenten season may be one of growth for all of us.

Ash Wednesday is Feb 25th. We will begin our journey at a parish worship service. A service, which this year, will be at Salemsborg Lutheran. It will begin at 7pm. We will hear the cry to turn back to God and live; live a life of thanksgiving in service to God and one another. We will have ashes placed on our foreheads to remind us of our impending death and our baptism to new life. We will gather around the communion table to be fed with the Body and Blood of Christ in with and under the bread and wine. As we do, we remember what God has done for us.

May God's Holy Spirit lead us and direct us as we rejoice in the love God has given and continues to give all of us.

In Christ, Pastor Ethan

### 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."**

[www.fslc.net](http://www.fslc.net)

[salemsborg@hometelco.net](mailto:salemsborg@hometelco.net)

### The Shack discussion continues

We will meet around noon on February 8th at the Fellowship Center to continue our journey. At our last meeting, we were divided up in groups. The different groups will be in charge of dinner. If you have any questions about the groups or schedule, contact Trisha Hawk. If you missed the last one, that's okay, come to the one on the eighth. It's an awesome book and an awesome time together.

### Financial Peace University (FPU) continues

FPU will continue to meet on Sunday evenings beginning at 6:30 pm beginning on February 8th. (Please note that we will not meet on February 1st due to Annual Meetings and the Theophilus Supper Bowl Party). The class is going well with around 50 people participating.

### Theophilus Super Bowl Party

The Annual Super Bowl party will be at the Salemsborg Fellowship Center. The game begins at 5:00 pm. People attending are asked to bring snacks and drinks to share. You may also want to bring a comfortable chair to sit in to watch the commercials, I mean the game! :-)

### Worship & Music Committee

Worship/Music Committee is scheduled to meet on Sun, Feb 8th at 5:00 pm at Salemsborg in the church basement. It's an important meeting so committee members plan on attending.

### Thank You's

Thank you so much for all the wonderful food, cards, calls and prayers during my recuperation. You have no idea what a great help it was and how much we appreciate it. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Debbie Allton and family

This is a big thank you for all your prayers, cards, phone calls and visits you gave me while I was in the hospital for surgery and after I came home. Your help and concerns gave me a big lift. It means so much to me to have so many friends. Also to Pastor Ethan who was always there with his needed prayers and visits and to my family. They were great.

God bless all of you, Don (Bud) Pihl.

### 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!"**

**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: Chandra McClure, Nikki Driscoll, Larry Kelley, Don Pihl, Debbie Allton, Cindy Dimitri, Edna Kvacik, Elmyra Hearn, Don Cheever, Robin Roets' aunt, Karson Schierling, Calvin Carlson, Marie Nelson, Axel Thomas, Gordon Gladden, Ron & Gayla Bloyd, Malcom Stambaugh, Kristy Bergstrom, McKenzie Griffin, Cal Williams, Caden Wekamp, Carol Hearn, Greg Aune, Carlina Swisher, Steve & Bren Blanner, Rebecca Copley Johnson, Kristine Govier, Kristine Govier's two friends, Seretha Johnson, Jennifer Hoffmans, Dolly Nelson, Leann Marr, Vickie Everhardt, Allen Nicholson, Larry Lamer, Tom Hollopeter, Harry Sandahl, Melinda Ho, Jim Gooch, Evelyn Peterson's daughter Kathy, Gerald Walter, Mary Tillberg's aunt, Pastor Steven Little, Leigh Heller, Joan Garman, families in conflict, Kathy Sadey, Deb Meyers, Diane Williams, Carolyn Johnson, Marjorie Oleen, Viola Miller, Rosella Oleen, . We also pray for many unspoken requests. If we have forgotten anyone, we apologize. Please let us know so we can include them next time.



#### **Sign-Up for Meals**

Cindy Dimitri will have surgery on Jan. 29 and will need help with meals for about 2-3 weeks, starting on Feb. 2. She won't be able to move or stand normally during this time. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. Please help Cindy and her family by providing a meal for 3 people between 5:30-6pm during this difficult time.



#### **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

### Salemsborg WELCA

Thanks to each person who ventured out in the cold and snow on January 15th for WELCA Sewing Day. We finished three quilts and worked on getting others ready for next month. We had a good time and shared good food.

We have received a resignation from Peggy Crowl as chair person of the Altar Guild and of the Wedding Coordinators. We are in need of two persons to accept these two positions. The chairperson of Altar Guild purchases candles, wine, grape juice and other supplies; assists the other Altar Guild members as needed; and prepares the schedule for the next year. The Wedding Coordinator chair person is responsible for assigning members of the committee to oversee the weddings in our church according to the guidelines set up by our church council and collecting the fees from non-members. Please contact Mary Tillberg or Marilyn Johnson with questions about these responsibilities or if you are willing to serve in either of these positions.

Our WELCA has responsibilities for Bingo at Bethany Home on Feb. 16. We need 10 helpers. The helpers need to be at Bethany Home at 2:00pm so Bingo can begin at 2:15pm.

Please pick up your WELCA program booklets from the pew in the back of the church. There should be one with your name on it.

### Falun Lutheran Women

The Falun Senior Citizens will meet on Tuesday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m.

The Falun Quilting group will meet on February 23 at 10am.

### Grounds Keeper Needed

The Falun Church Council is now accepting bids for grounds keeper. The bids should be given to Jerrine Oleen. They will be accepted through Sunday, January 25th.

### New Baby

Congratulations to Chris and Farrah Erickson on the birth of their son, Christian Lee. Christian was born Jan 7th, weighed 7 lbs. and was 19 in. long. May God bless this happy family.

### Mother's Hour

Michelle Boos of Salina will present the February meeting of the Mother's Hour at the First Covenant Church in Salina. The non-denominational event will be held on Thursday, February 5th from 9:15-10:45am with childcare provided. The topic will be "Bullying: What Every Parent Needs to Know". There is no charge. Questions? Call Coleen 825-8340.

### In Case of Bad Weather

When there is bad weather this winter and you need to check to see if events or services for the parish will be held or canceled, please listen to KSAL, look on [ksalink.com](http://ksalink.com), or watch Channel 12 or Channel 3.

**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

### Parish Annual Meetings

The Parish Annual Meetings will be held on Sunday, February 1st, 2009. At Salemsborg the meeting will be held after a shortened worship service which will begin at 9:00 a.m. At Falun the meeting will begin after a shortened worship service which will begin at 11:00 a.m. All active, confirmed members are expected to participate in the meetings.

At Salemsborg, 25 people are asked to bring a crockpot of chili. Table service, drinks and Cinnamon rolls will be provided.

At Falun, folks are asked to bring a crockpot of soup to share. Table service, crackers and drinks will be provided.

### Christian Youth Day at Bethany

Christian Youth Day will be held at Bethany College on Saturday, March 7, 2009. A large list of events appear on information which is located on the bulletin boards of each church. The deadline for registration is Friday, Feb. 20, 2009. For more questions contact Noni Strand, Campus Pastor at 785-227-3380, ext. 8340, or [strandn@bethanylb.edu](mailto:strandn@bethanylb.edu).

### Bethany College Events

**Feb. 6-7 & 13-14**--Interterm musical theatre production of "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"

7:30pm at Burnett Center

**Feb. 8**--Rehearsals begin for "Messiah"--3-5pm

**Feb. 19**--ELCA Bishops share stories from Middle East trip--7-9pm in Lindquist Hall

**Feb. 26**--Augustana Choir Concert--7:30pm at Presser Hall

**March 7**--Christian Youth Day

### Parish Notes

**Esther Group** and spouses/friends had their belated Christmas party at the Brookville Hotel at Abilene, KS on Jan. 11th at 1:30 p.m. Everyone was invited to attend even if they have not been making it to the meetings. The more the merrier!

**Falun Town & Falun Community Residents**—interested in improving the town of Falun?? A 3rd meeting was scheduled Tuesday, January 20th, 7:30pm at the Falun Church Parish Hall. Carol Torkelton, North Central Regional Planning Commission; Aaron White, Salina Chamber of Commerce; and Vicki Koespal, Saline County Director of Planning & Zoning, were present to give additional information and answer questions. Everyone was welcome to attend.

**Lisa Petty's** phone number in our Parish Directory is not listed correctly. It should be 785-826-3145. If you have noticed any other information in the directory that is not right, please let Donna know and an announcement will be made regarding the changes needed. Thanks!

**Many thanks** to the Choir and Smoky View 4-H Club for their participation in the service Jan. 25 at Salemsborg. Alyssa Carlson and Caitlin Carlson are handing out bulletins; Greeters are Missy Wimer and Hannah Carlson; Wade Allton will ring the bell; acolytes are Rilee Carson and Katie Allton; offering is Nick Deterding, Cody Suhr, Kyler Suhr and Wade Allton; kitchen help is Emily Deterding, Kate Deterding, and Kellee Carson. We appreciate having all of them here.

**Information needed for the March 2009 Newsletter is due by Friday, February 20th.**