

THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR

NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBOURG LUTHERAN PARISH

FEBRUARY 2012

Pastor's notes

Joel 2.13: NRSV *rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.*

I am making a plea to you. I have seen your pain. I have seen the emotional roller coaster that you are on. I have also noticed that what you are going through is causing you to walk away from me; sometimes even run. The pain seems to be so bad either physically or spiritually or both. I know that you feel you can run away from it but you can't.

I know what it feels like to be in pain both physically and spiritually. I know what it feels like to be abandoned. I know what it feels like to be betrayed. I know what it feels like to feel unloved, uncared for, depressed. It is for these reasons and many more that you may not even know about that I have called you.

I have called you to come back to me, to stop running away and return to me. I have called you to return to me and feel the love I have for you. I want you to return to me that I may fix your broken heart, your broken spirit. I want you to return to me that I may ease your burdens

I will not be mad at you. I will run to you and give you a hug. I will welcome you back. I will carry you if need be. I love you so much and care for you so much. You are my child. You are my creation. I made you with so many special gifts. I have called you by name. You are special. I am right beside you. I am with you and yet you don't see

me or feel me. Let go and quit running, return to my arms. The word and sacraments are here. Your brothers and sisters are here. Return to me, I miss you. I am calling you.

God

Lent Begins!

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22, Ash Wednesday. We will gather as a Parish at Falun Lutheran for the Ash Wednesday service that will include Word, Imposition of Ashes, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The service begins at 7:00 pm.

Lenten Suppers and Devotions

On Wednesdays during Lent beginning February 29th, we will gather as a Parish for Lenten Suppers and Devotional time. The councils of both congregations will be in charge of organizing and serving the meals. A free-will offering will be taken to cover the costs of the meals. After we break bread together, we will have a short devotion. The supper begins at 6:30 pm with devotions beginning around 7:15 or so.

Don't Forget!

There will be a Joint Parish Service on Jan. 29th at 11:00am at Salemsborg. Sunday School at 9:30am and Coffee at 10:30. The UYG Annual Lasagna Dinner will follow at the Salemsborg Fellowship Center!

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.

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!"

www.fslc.net

salemsborg@hometelco.net



**Poinsettias Given in Memory
or Honor of Loved Ones**

- *Dale & Marilyn Johnson in memory of loved ones (Altar)
- *Fairlene Swanson in memory of Myrl & other loved ones (Altar)
 - *Ron & Audrey Miller in memory of loved ones
- *Don & Betty Pihl in memory of Wallace Pihl & loved ones
- * Wayne Carlson & family in memory of Edgar Swenson,
August Carlson, and Ted Bjorkman
- *Almeda Ryding & family in memory of Amos Ryding and loved ones
 - *Nancy Anderson in loving memory of all their loved ones
- *Brynna, Marik & Brik in memory of their "Big Papa", Dave Anderson
 - *The Warren Johnson family in memory of Helmer, Louise,
Marvin, Carroll and Kenneth Johnson
- *Dolly Nelson in memory of Manny, Kurtiss and other loved ones
 - *Carol Brown in memory of Richard Brown
- *Leon & Donna Swanson in memory of Kari, Josh and loved ones
 - *Wesley and Karissa in memory of Kari and Josh
 - *Craig & Dylan Goodell in memory of loved ones
- *The Tjaden family in loving memory of Maurice Tjaden & Montez Tjaden
- *The Tjaden family in loving memory of Raymond & Lucile Bengtson
 - *Marilyn Brown, Cathy Englund and Karen Liljestrand
in memory of Vernon Englund, Paul Brown, and Buzz McDowell
 - *Tom & Marlysue Holmquist in loving memory of
Darrel Holmquist and Jo Holmquist
 - *Ben & Angela Dolezal in memory of loved ones
 - *Milt & Cheryl Larson in memory of loved ones
 - *Ray & Mary Negus in memory of Axil & Edith Johnson,
Vivian & Ruth Johnson, Harold Neywick, Christina Heimer
- *Monte, Tammy & Jade Wolf in memory of Alvin & Dylan Soukup
 - *Leroy & Coleen Pihl in memory of loved ones
 - *Emery & Doris Frost in memory of loved ones
- *The Feistners in celebration of 10 years of shared ministry
and many blessings received



W/ELCA NEWS

Salemsborg WELCA

The WELCA ladies will hold their sewing day on Feb. 9th at 9:30am. Potluck lunch is at noon & business at 12:30pm.

Sarah Group will meet Feb. 23 at the Fellowship Center

Lydia Tabitha Group will meet Feb. 23 at the Fellowship Center at 2:00pm. Hostess will be Betty Pihl

Esther Group will meet Feb. 27 at 7:30pm. Hostess and Co-Hostess is Nita Kay Carlson; Lesson: Melanie Ryding

Friday, Feb. 24 is Bethany Home Birthday Cake held at 3:00pm. Meet in the Dining Room.

Falun Lutheran Women

Falun Senior Citizens will meet at the church on Tuesday, February 14 at 1:00pm.

Falun Lutheran Women will hold their game night at Falun Church at 7:00pm on Wed. Feb. 15. They suggest a \$5 donation for a worthy cause. Shirley Bloomquist and Tina Dauer are in charge. Mary Negus in charge of devotions. All are asked to bring a snack.

Parish Annual Meetings

The Annual Meetings will be held at Falun Lutheran and Salemsborg Lutheran on Sunday, February 5th after shortened worship services. At Falun a Soup Dinner will be held following the meeting. Everyone is invited to bring your favorite soup. Crackers, relish plate, rolls, drinks and tableware provided. No Sunday School held that day but a couple of activities will be available for the children while their parents are attending the annual meeting.

Discussion at Falun Annual Meeting

From the Falun Church Council: The possibility of having a single joint Falun/Salemsborg Parish worship service each Sunday during two of the summer months in 2012 has been discussed in meetings of the Worship & Music Committee and the Parish Coordinating Committee. If approved, the months would probably be June & July. The Falun Church Council voted to have the Falun Lutheran Church members vote on that proposal at their annual meeting on Feb 5 2012.

United Youth Group News

On Sat, Feb. 4, we will gather for our annual nitro bowling/breakfast bash. We will gather at the Fellowship Center beginning at 7:30pm to begin getting things ready for breakfast to be prepared and served after bowling. We will leave for bowling at 9pm. We bowl until midnight and then will head back for breakfast at the Fellowship Center. After breakfast, we will do our church excursion. We will call it a night around 2:30-3am. All will then head home for a good night's rest to get prepared for worship and annual meetings later than morning. Are you ready to have some fun?!?! Pastor Ethan predicts that he will get high score at bowling!

Falun/Salemsborg Junior High Youth Group News!

It is time to get ready for a ski trip! We will be going on a ski trip Feb. 23-26. There will be 11 youth and 8 adults headed to Colorado for a time of devotion, fun, food, skiing and group building. If you would like to contribute to the trip, please contact Pastor Ethan or Cheryl Larson. This group is just beginning! What a great way to start!

Group members will be selling chocolate "roses" to give to your special someone for Valentines Day to help finance this trip. To order a bouquet, please talk to a Junior High Youth. Thanks for your support!

New Baby!

Congratulations to Tim & Nikki Larson on the birth of their baby girl, Rylee Marie. She was born Jan. 5, 2012 and weighed 5lbs. 5oz. All are doing well! May God bless all.

New Member at Salemsborg

We welcomed new member Ann McConkey to Salemsborg on Sunday, January 22, 2012. We appreciate having Ann sing the Kyrie when we celebrate the Service of the Word on non-communion Sunday's. Thanks, Ann, and welcome to the Falun/Salemsborg Lutheran Parish!

Thank You's

Thanks so much for the poinsettia given to me and to Lydia Tabitha group for the bag of goodies. They were very much appreciated! Mary Holmquist.

Thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards, and food given to me during my recent knee replacement surgery. You all mean so much. I'm progressing very well. Leon

Thanks so much to everyone for the cards, flowers and visits during my hospital stay. It all cheered me up. God Bless. Diana Fairbanks

Salemsborg WELCA; You're the Best! Thanks so much for the pretty poinsettia plant. I guess there are advantages to being 80 years old! Special thanks to Coleen and Sherri for delivering it! Marilyn Brown

Thanks so much to everyone for the prayers you've sent for me and my family for the last few months. They are so appreciated! John Hawk

Friends, May the peace and joy of the holiday season be with you throughout the coming year. The gift of food you gave to the Salina Emergency Aid/Food bank will continue throughout the New Year in deeds of kindness to those in need in the Salina Community. May God bless you in the new year! Sincerely, Salina Emergency Aid/Food Bank.

A sincere thank you for the cards, visits, acts of kindness and prayers given for me during my recent hospital stays. It's so nice to be part of such a caring extended church and neighborhood family. A special thank you to Pastor Ethan for the many visits while I was in Wichita. Rex & family

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.

The deadline for information needed in the March 2012 Newsletter is Monday, February 20th

Food Bank Sunday

Food Bank Sunday is the 1st Sunday of each month. Flour is needed for the month of February, however, any item you wish to donate will be greatly appreciated. Paper products, flour and small **clean** containers are always needed. A box is located next to the front door of the church for your convenience. Items will be brought forward and placed on the Altar on Food Bank Sunday



The Noisy Offering at Falun and Salemsborg will be combined quarterly. This quarter it will go to the Parish United Youth Group and the F/S Parish Jr. High Youth Group

We began our Bible study of the Gospel of Matthew Jan. 15 at noon at Salemsborg. Folks brought a sack lunch and Bible and be prepared to be changed and shaped by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God by God's grace!

Our second Confirmation Study Day was held Jan. 21, at 9am. We discussed the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Youth were asked to bring their Bibles, a writing utensil, snacks and drinks to share. The following parents had volunteered to prepare the noon meal: Debbie Allton, Kathy Saltzman, Denise Carson and Carrie Ellis.

The parents and youth of the Junior High Parish Youth Group met to discuss the upcoming ski trip at 2:30pm following the confirmation class.

Please keep Jason Carlson in your prayers as he travels to Haiti on a 10- day mission trip with Samaritan's Purse. While there, he will be working on the construction of an orphanage. He will return Jan 28.

Don't forget that we will have a joint worship service on January 29th at Salemsborg beginning at 11:00 am. Sunday School will begin at 9:30 am with coffee and fellowship beginning at 10:30 am.

Theophilus Fellowship was held at the SFC at 6:30pm on Jan. 22. It was hosted by the Dolezals.

On Sunday, Jan 29, the United Youth Group will have their Annual Lasagna meal at noon in the SFC. A donation of \$10 is suggested for adults and youth age 11yrs and older. Youth under 10yrs suggested donation of \$5 for a special meal.

We will be mending flags that fly on Memorial Weekend on Jan. 26 from 9am-1:30pm at Salemsborg. We need all the help we can get. We have a lot to mend. Bring a sack lunch. For questions, call Coleen or Betty. Lydia Tabitha will meet at the church that day to make it easier to mend the flags.

A friendly reminder—please shut off all lights and lock doors if you are the last one in the church. If you don't have a key, you can lock up front doors and go out the back door. We have had lights left on and doors left open at the Fellowship Center, and at both churches. Thanks!

If you are ever interested in using the Fellowship Center for any reason, please contact Nita Kay Carlson. She can be reached at wncarlson@hometelco.net, or on her cell phone at 785-227-5363.

When there is bad weather in our area 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 ksallink.com, or watch Channel 12 or Channel 3 on your television.

Change in Voucher & TACOL Assistance

Due to the fact that the "blue house" by the Covenant Church has been moved, the open voucher and TACOL assistance days and locations are now, Wednesdays from 5-8pm in the Covenant Church office and Thursdays from 9am-12pm in the Covenant Church Library. Once a more permanent solution has been found, you will be notified. TACOL assistance amounts remain the same

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. Credits can be used to buy paper and other office supplies which are needed. A box is provided 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 all your help. So far we have been able to get paper for the bulletins, basic office supplies, cases of copy paper, ink for printer, newsletter sealing labels, etc using the credits we have accumulated using the recycling project!!

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: Jason Carlson, mission trip to Haiti; Rex Tjaden, Karen Schott, Nita Kay's cousin, breast cancer; Lisa Newman's step-dad, Al, heart attack and open heart surgery; Lisa Newman, blood clots in her leg; Tristan Donaldson, SVMS 7th grader, broken spleen; Susan Hellman, lump removed, radiation in the future; Ava McCullick, 2yr. old Falun girl, malignant brain tumors, Susan Hemphill, Cindy Dimitri's friend, breast cancer; Noni Strand, Bethany College Pastor, breast cancer; Norma Oborg, chemo for ovarian cancer; Jerod Larson, Milt Larson's nephew; Aryanna Nagy, Soderstrom 4th grader, Aplastic anemia; We also pray for many unspoken requests. If we have missed anyone, please let us know.

Care Packages for Our Troops

The Care Packages for Our Troops program is an ongoing ministry. If you have questions you can contact Rick Saunders at 785-822-2346 or email him at shdyrest@hometelco.net. Items suggested are located on the donation box by the front door of the church. Thanks to all who have already donated items for this wonderful cause.

Those who would like to send a donation directly to the Synod may do so by mailing it to: Central States Synod E.L.C.A., 21 N. 12th St., Suite 210, Kansas City, Kansas 66102