

# THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR



NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH



FEBRUARY 2011

## Pastors notes

*Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him"*  
Psalm 37:7

As part of the glorious call as pastor, I get a lot of mail. I recently received some sample devotional books. One of the books is titled, "What's Next, God?" That title caught my eye.

How many times have I prayed those words!? How many times have I shouted those words!? When one looks around at the world, one cannot help but sometimes ask, "What's next, God?" When one sees and feels so much pressure and stress in life, one cannot help but ask, "What's next, God?"

The phrase has a lot of feelings behind it. It sounds as if we are at our wit's end. Yet, it also sounds like we still trust God. We feel out of control and wonder if God is in control yet—we still pray and ask God, "What's next, God?"

The writer of Psalm 37 has a great word of wisdom for us. No matter how we are feeling when we pray the words, "What's next, God?", we need to wait. God is walking with us. The Lord is an active God leading us, caring for us, loving us. We need to remember God's promises. We need to trust in God. We need to calm down, take a few deep breaths and hand it over to God.

What's next, God? I do not know but give me the patience, the strength and the faith to be still and put my life in your loving, grace filled, forgiving hands!

Peace  
Pastor Ethan

### Confirmation Days

Confirmation days are Saturday, February 12th and Saturday, February 26th. The classes will run from 9:00 am to 2:30—3:00 pm. We will be discussing the Apostles' Creed one day and the Lord's Prayer the last. A letter will be going out about the scheduled lock-in the night of February 26th so keep your eyes open.

### 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."

### Joint Parish Service

Don't forget the Joint Parish Service which will be held on Sunday, January 30th at 9:00am at Salemsborg Lutheran Church. No Sunday School will be held that day.

After the worship service, a brunch will be held during the coffee hour. Biscuits & gravy and scrambled eggs will be served. Come and enjoy a wonderful worship service and delicious meal as a parish! The United Youth Group will meet after the brunch!

### Parish Annual Meetings

Parish Annual Meetings will be held on Sunday, February 6th, 2011. The deadline for information needed in the Annual Report was due on January 16th, 2011.

### Soup Potluck at Falun

A Soup Potluck Lunch will follow the Falun Annual Meeting on February 6th. Cinnamon Rolls, Crackers and drink will be provided.

### Theophilus Super Bowl Party

Theophilus will hold their annual Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 6th beginning around 5-5:30ish. Please bring food to share and maybe a comfortable chair to sit on. It's going to be a fun time!

### Parish Bible Study

Our Parish Bible study has changed the time for everyone to meet. It will begin around **noonish** (notice time change) and will be held in the Salemsborg Church basement. It's "brown bag it" time. We are going to be meeting at this same time on non-communion Sundays. We will be going over the Biblical examples that Sheila Walsh uses in her book Beautiful Things Happen When a Woman Trusts God. For those who ordered a book, they are in. The cost is \$16. You can get them from Patricia Hawk. If you have any questions about it, please contact Pastor Ethan.

### 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!"

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## W/ELCA NEWS

### Salemsborg WELCA

The WELCA Sewing Day will be held on Thursday, February 10th at 9:30am. Potluck will be served at noon and a business meeting will be held at 12:30pm.

Sarah Group meets on Feb. 24th at 9:30am and Lydia Tabitha Group meets at 2:00pm that same day. Betty Pihl is the hostess. The Esther Group meets on Feb. 28th at 7:30pm. Jeri Wimer is the hostess, Nita Kay Carlson is the Co-Hostess and Mary Tillberg will give the lesson.

### Falun Lutheran Women

The Falun Senior Citizens will meet on Tuesday, February 8th at 1:00pm. The ladies quilting group will meet on Tuesday, February 22nd.

### What is T.A.C.O.L. ?

The Associated Churches of Lindsborg, and surrounding areas; is a group of men and women meeting once a month. This group consists of 1 pastor from each church and 1 representative from each church. Not all of these churches are in Lindsborg; that is why "surrounding areas" is included.

TACOL meets to discuss how "they" can assist in helping the community. TACOL does not play favorites; in fact any pastor (serving on the board) can use TACOL services at any time. TACOL provides vouchers for their Food Bank Programs; and assistance to those in need. TACOL is widely known throughout the community for the Thrift Shop. The Thrift shop is located at 509 E. Swensson in Lindsborg and sells gently used goods for a fair price. The money that is made at this establishment helps pay for its own expenses; and anything left over is given back to the community.

Your Salemsborg representative is Melanie Barnett and your Falun representative is Janice Morris. Feel free to ask them questions about TACOL and how you can help! Whether you give time as a volunteer, donate unwanted goods or even make a few purchases at the the Thrift Store; your help is greatly needed and appreciated.

### TACOL News

TACOL is sponsoring a trip to the McPherson County Food Bank on February 11th at 2:00 p.m., leaving at 2pm from 126 S. Washington (south of Covenant Church. You must have a voucher from an area clergy or social service professional first. For more information, call Janice Morris at 785-822-4296.

### Thank You's

**Thanks so much** to WELCA for the beautiful poinsettia. Also, thanks for the caroling and bag of goodies from church. All was appreciated so much.

Almeda Ryding

**Thanks for** the beautiful poinsettia. I look forward to receiving one each year! Mary Holmquist

### More Thanks

**Thanks so much** to the ladies of WELCA for the beautiful poinsettia, which I have enjoyed so much. Thanks to the Bells and Choir for their concert at Bethany Home and the goodies they gave each of us.

Jo Holmquist

**Salemsborg Members**--We just wanted to let you all know how much we appreciate the wedding gift. Thanks so much! Kendall & Jordan Johnson

Friends, Thank you for your recent donation of food and cash. Your support is really important in helping us to meet peoples needs. Without you we could not do it. May you be richly blessed.

Sincerely, Emergency Aid / Food Bank--Freda Rees

**We would like** to thank you for all the thoughts, prayers, flowers, food, cards and acts of kindness shown to us during this very difficult time. It is very much appreciated. We would sincerely thank Pastor Ethan for all his visits when Elton was in the hospital as well as when he got home. We also would like to thank him for all his help with the funeral. He was very dedicated as at the same time his own mother was very ill. God greatly blessed us with many wonderful friends in this church. Once again, Thank you. The Elton Bloomberg family

### New Members at Salemsborg

We welcomed new members to Salemsborg on Sunday January 16th, 2011. John, Barb & Steve Geiger joined us after moving here from Colorado. Barb is LeRoy & Coleen Pihl's daughter.

On Sunday, January 23, 2011, we welcomed Greg & Tammy Surface, Heather & Matthew. They transferred from the Methodist church in Marquette.

We look forward to worshiping with all of you and to sharing the good news of Jesus the Christ!

### Think Pink Basketball Games

The Think Pink basketball games at Smoky Valley this year will be held on Friday, February 4th with girls' varsity beginning at 6:00 p.m. with boys game to follow. Donations taken at the game as well as the sale of shirts will help earn money which will be donated to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. People are encouraged to wear pink to the game to support the search for a cure.

### Mother's Hour

Mother's Hour will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at the First Covenant Church in Salina. Jenny Kejr will be the speaker. Her talk will be "Entrusting Our Children to God". Mother's Hour is a non-denominational ministry which gives encouragement to women and parents of preschool and school age children. The event is held from 9:15--10:45 a.m. There is no charge and supervised nurseries for infants and teaching activities for toddlers through 6-year olds is available.

### Pastor's Gift

For those who were not at Salemsborg on Christmas Eve, a word about the Christmas bonus for Pastor Ethan, Kellie and Alex. They were given a certificate for a 3-4 day cruise to be scheduled at their convenience. It was suggested that they book something over Spring break, allowing Pastor to miss that one Lenten service (and a Sunday). Thank you to everyone who gave any amount of money, making it possible for us to show the Fiestners how much they mean to us!

### Spaghetti Feed

The Troop 120 Boy Scout Spaghetti Feed is February 6 from 11am-1pm at Bethany Lutheran Church and is a freewill donation. The menu is Spaghetti and Meatsauce, tossed salad, garlic bread, drink and homemade desserts. The proceeds are divided and go directly to the Boy Scouts to help with camp costs this summer at Quivira Scout Ranch near Sedan and Philmont in New Mexico! The troop is active and growing! And with that, the financial need increases. The community support is much appreciated!

### Cookin' in Concordia!

"A Second Helping" which is a sequel to "The Church Basement Ladies" will be presented at the Brown Grand Theatre in Concordia, KS on April 5th. There is limited seating. Call 785-243-2553 or email [www.browngrand.org](http://www.browngrand.org) for tickets

### A Few Notes

The Noisy Offering at Falun for the months of December, January, & February will be the Bethany Home Dining Out Fund.

Salemsborg will continue their noisy offering on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

If you are ever interested in using the Fellowship Center for any reason, please contact Nita Kay Carlson. If you need to contact her please email her at [wncarlsn@hometelco.net](mailto:wncarlsn@hometelco.net). By phone you can reach her on her cell at 785-227-5363

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).

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 for your help!

**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: CWO-3 Edward DuBois—Tammy Surface's brother—Deployed to Afghanistan, Reed Krone (1 yr. old)—friend of Joel & Jeri Wimer—liver cancer, Blake Northcutt—Northcutt's nephew—serving w/ USAF in Afghanistan, Chance Watkins, Debbie Smith—auto accident, Benny Hamel—Tina Peterson's brother—health issues, Arlie Holmes—Deanna Applequist's brother-in-law—Massive heart attack, Ethan Harkin—Donna's family—tumor on his heart, Michaela Stratton—Kellie Feistner's niece—seizures, Buzz (Lawrence) McDowell—Marilyn Brown's brother—cancer, Debbie Allton's sister-in-law—hurt by a bull, Charles & Arlene Kelley, Harold Hartshorn—Tricia Hawk's father—prostate cancer, Jan & Jim Nelson's daughters: Carlena Quisenberry—stroke, and Linda Martin—cancer, Arlene-Betty Pihl's nephew's wife—cancer has spread and has other health issues, Curt Forsberg-Dolly's brother-diagnosed with cancer, Carolyn Johnson suffering from MS, Leann Marr, Pastor Ethan's sister battling cancer. We also pray for many unspoken requests. If we have missed anyone, please let us know.

### 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