

THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR

NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH

JANUARY 2011



FROM THE PASTOR



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1 (NRSV)

I cannot believe that it's going to be, already it is 2011! It just doesn't seem possible. 2011 is a big year for our household because it is the year Alex graduates. I can remember talking with Kellie when she was pregnant with Alex about steps in his life. Graduation seemed so far away back then. Yet, 2011 is here.

As I begin another year, such an important year, the verse from John 1 came into my mind and heart. The words are reassuring for me. The Word is reassuring for me.

John writes that ever since time began the Word was... Jesus was.... Jesus has been around always throughout time and space. When one looks at the past, Jesus was there. No matter what happened when, Jesus was there. Jesus knew all the joys and pains the people went through on this earth. Jesus knew because He was there.

This same Jesus then came to earth, lived, died and rose again. This Word defeated death and sin once and for all. This same Word conquered the darkness that separated all of humanity from God. This Jesus was there for us through it all. It is this same Jesus that promises to be with us until time is no more.

Jesus is with us at the beginning of 2011 and throughout the year until our time on this earth is done. Jesus promises to walk with us. Jesus asks us to hand over to Him all of our burdens when they become too much. Jesus is there to help us walk, run and even dance. Jesus is with my son Alex as he prepares to graduate and go down another path in his life. Jesus is with all of us no matter what path we are going down.

A Happy and Blessed 2011 to all
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."

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Thank You

Thanks so much for touching our hearts and lives with such grace and love, we are so blessed! Thank you for the many gifts given to us over the holidays, you are such kind and generous people. Every Christmas, every day, we give thanks to God for calling us here. The greatest gift we ever receive from you is you. We are so fortunate to be here! We are so blessed! Words cannot express our thanks, our joy and the pure emotions that we feel in our hearts for you. Thanks for everything!

Parish Bible Study

We will begin our next Bible study on Sunday, January 16th. It will begin at 7:00 pm and will be held in the Salemsborg Church basement. We will be going over the Biblical examples that Sheila Walsh uses in her book Beautiful Things Happen When a Woman Trusts God

Confirmation Day

Our first confirmation day will be on Sat, Jan 22nd beginning at 9am We will be going over The 10 Commandments. The Norberg, Carlson, Lemen & Surface families are in charge of the noon meal for that day. Youth are to bring their Bibles and a writing utensil with them as well as drinks and snacks to share for the day.

Thank You

We want to say, Thanks! Thank you for all the prayers, the food, the kind words, the cards, the love, the grace and the support you have shown us. The death of Ethan's mom has been a road that is a lot easier to travel when God uses such great people to give grace and comfort. You are such a blessing to us, we cannot thank you enough for all you do!

Parish Annual Meetings

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

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!"



Year 2011 Worship Time Changes!

**Remember, on Sunday,
January 2nd, worship times
at Falun and Salemsborg
Lutheran Churches will change.
Worship at Salemsborg will be at 9:00am.
Coffee will be at 10:00am
and Sunday School at 10:30am.
At Falun the worship time is at 11:00am.
Sunday School will be at 9:30am and
Coffee time at 10:30am.**

Don't Forget !!

W/ELCA NEWS

Salemsborg WELCA

The Church will be "undecorated" on Sunday, January 2, 2011. Thanks for all who are willing to help!

The Salemsborg Esther Group will have their Holiday Dine-Out on Sunday, January 9th at noon at Gutierrez. Guests are welcome at this event.

Falun Lutheran Women

The Falun Senior Citizens will meet on Tuesday, January 11th at 1:00pm. The ladies quilting group will meet on Tuesday, January 25th.

Joint Parish Worship Service

There will be a joint Parish worship service at Salemsborg on Sunday, January 30, 2011. It will begin at 9:00 a.m. Coffee time will be held after the service. Please plan to attend this special event. It is a great way to build up the Body of Christ!

Worship Service Time Changes

Don't forget! On Sunday, January 2, 2011, the times for worship will change in accordance with the Parish agreement. Salemsborg worship will be at 9:00 a.m. and the Falun worship will be at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School and coffee times will change at each church as well. Salemsborg coffee time will be at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday School will be at 10:30 a. m. Falun Sunday School will be at 9:30am and coffee time at 10:30 a.m.

First Communion

Congratulations to Harly Watkins as you celebrated your first communion on Sunday, December 5, 2010. God bless you and keep you and always remember that you always have a place on the Lord's Table.

More Thank You's

Thanks to Clair Oleen for filling in for Pastor Ethan during his absence on Sunday, December 12.

Thank you for prayers, concern and cards before and after my hip surgery. My recovery is going very well. Blessings to my church family! Marilyn Brown

Thanks so much to the carolers for coming to my house to sing and to Ilene Cooper for suggesting my name to them. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and their families. God Bless all of you! Ivalee Kalb

TACOL News

TACOL is sponsoring a trip to the McPherson County Food Bank on January 14th 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.

The deadline for February 2011 Newsletter information is Thursday, January 20th

Christmas Basket Committee

The Christmas Basket committee from TACOL is asking for donations for next year. Maybe when putting your Christmas stuff away, you may want to donate: Christmas wrapping paper, Christmas cards, name tags, gift sacks--all sizes, and tissue paper. People may bring items to the church or call Mary Patrick at 227-4306 and she will pick it up. Thanks for your help.

Bethany Alumni


Public service. Excellent leadership. Does this sound like an alumnus or alumna you know? Or several Bethany alumni? If so, please help Bethany College recognize its outstanding graduates. Nominate your former classmates or friends for an alumni award. Depending upon their graduation date, alumni are eligible to receive several awards: the God Award, the Award of Merit, the Distinguished Graduate Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award. The nomination deadline has been extended to January 1st. The winners will be awarded this spring at the Alumni Recognition Banquet during Commencement weekend.

Messiah Time

The tree is up, the carolers are singing, the fruitcake is baking....Now it's time to turn our minds to Easter, of course! Amidst the "busy peacefulness" of the Christmas Season, plans and preparations are in full swing for the 2011 Messiah Festival, April 17-24, 2011. We are very excited for the Messiah Festival's 130th season, and to introduce you to our new music director, Dr. Jeff Wall. Mark your calendars now for our first rehearsal, February 13th, at 3:00 p.m. PLEASE START INVITING friends, neighbors, family members, new church members, co-workers, people standing next to you in line at the grocery store....ANYONE who has any interest in singing, to come participate in the Messiah Choir this year! The continued growth and success of this Festival depends on personal invitations from participants like YOU! Look for a letter from the Messiah Festival Office next month, detailing more information. Tickets go on sale January 3. Please call or email Blakely in the Messiah Festival Office(bunningb@bethanylb.eu or 785-227-3380 ext. 8137) with any questions or needs you may have. See you on February 13th!

Mother's Hour


Mother's Hour will be held on Thursday, January 6, 2011 at the First Covenant Church, 2625 E. Magnolia Rd., Salina from 9:15 to 10:45 am. Joyce Peterson will be the speaker. Her talk will be "Epiphany--What?". She will share ways to celebrate Epiphany (Jesus as light of the world) more fully through simple acts of worship. Mother's Hour is an inter-denominational ministry whose purpose is to give encouragement to women and parents of preschool and school-age children. There are supervised nurseries for infants and teaching activities for toddlers through 6-year olds.



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

Salemsborg


- *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
 - *Fairlene Swanson in memory of Myrl Swanson
- *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
Dave Anderson & Phil Hersig
 - *Warren & Debbie Johnson & family in memory
of Dave Anderson and other loved ones
- *The Johnson family in memory of Warren's parents,
Helmer & Louise Johnson, and his brothers;
Marvin, Carroll and Kenneth Johnson
- *Dolly Nelson in memory of Manny and
Tony & other loved ones
 - *John, Tricia, Eric & Briton Hawk
in memory of Dylan Soukup
 - *Leon & Donna Swanson in memory
of Kari, Josh and loved ones
 - *Wesley and family & Karissa Shultis
in memory of Kari and Josh
- *Pat & Jane MacDonald & family in memory of
Leo & JoAnn Anderson and other loved ones
 - *Craig & Dylan Goodell in memory of
Kellie, Wayne & Lila Goodell
 - *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 Paul Brown, "Dickie" Englund and Vernon Englund.



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


Falun

- *Marilyn Smith & family in memory of Mike Smith
- *Lois (Johnson) Quinton, Linda Deerfield & JoAnn O'Niel
in memory of Lois' husband, Gordon Quinton
- *Lois, Linda & JoAnn in memory of David Scott Quinton
- *Julius, Jane, Vivian, Warren & Morris in memory
of Axel & Edith Johnson
- *Ray & Mary Negus in memory of Axel & Edith Johnson,
Vivian Johnson, Harold Neywick, and Christina Heimer
- *Earl & Ione Dauer in honor of their children and grandchildren who
have made their 60 years of marriage fun & easy. Also for family
and friends who have gone to the other side
- *Edna Kvacik in memory of Don Kvacik, DeVere Blomberg,
Bertha and Philip Blomberg
- *Russ & Tammy Lamer in memory of loved ones



**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: Pat Wendelin and all who grieve the death of Pat's father, The family and friends of Loretta Feistner--Pastor Ethan's mother, The family and friends of Elton Bloomberg, The family and friends of Dennis Martins--Ed Dippel's brother in law, Michaela Stratton--Kellie Feistner's niece--seizures, Buzz (Lawrence) McDowell--Marilyn Brown's brother--cancer, Jade Soukup (Dylan's sister)--medical tests, the Soukup/Wolf family, Debbie Allton's sister-in-law--hurt by a bull, Charles & Arlene Kelley, Harold Hartshorn--Tricia Hawk's father--prostate cancer, John Mack--health concerns, Jan & Jim Nelson's daughters: Carlana 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.





Elton Edstal Bloomberg

March 9, 1920--December 3, 2010

Elton Edstal Bloomberg, age 90, of Assaria died Friday, December 3, 2010. Elton was born March 9, 1920 in Liberty Township, Saline County, Kansas. He was the son of Anton Fredrick and Emelia C (Johnson) Bloomberg. On January 11, 1959, he married Rose Lindholm in Lindsborg.

Elton was a farmer and WWII Army Air Force veteran.

He is survived by his wife Rose of the home, two daughters; Maxine Bloomberg of Smolan, KS and Darlene Bloomberg of Assaria, KS, one granddaughter, Liberty Hollingshead of Smolan. He was preceded in death by a sister Melvina Hoglund.

Memorials may be designated to Salemsborg Lutheran Church, Friends of Maxwell, or the Kansas Specialty Dog Service, Ins.

Interment was in the Salemsborg Lutheran Cemetery with a time of fellowship following the committal service.

Memory Lane

The final segment of the video with Walter Anderson and Elmer Johnson was viewed. In an effort to find a quiet place to visit, the men retreated to Walter's room at Bethany Home. The conversation was lively.....and so was the bird that Walter had as a pet. In fact, it was at times more vocal than either of the men. But a lot of history from this area was shared.

Apparently, at one one a railroad was planned for this area that would connect Salemsborg with McPherson. The ground was staked about 1/2 mile west of Johnson's farm. Both men felt it was around 1910, but for some reason the railroad did not materialize. There was a train already running out of Lindsborg. Perhaps that is why.

Elmer grew up on their homeplace which his dad, Oscar, purchased. It wasn't too far from Walter's home. Their farm came to their family after his mother's first cousin, Gust Lindholm, passed away.

They used to have fun climbing in the hills. They cleared an area of rocks so they could coast. His dad had a bobsled rigged so they could guide it. A horse would drag it to the top and they would slide down. Someone would lead the horse home so they could go to the top and slide down again.

Burma Road was sanded and straightened in 1935 as a WPA project. Guys could come out and sit with shovels and if they chose to sit and do nothing, they could not be made to work. Contractors would come to spread the sand.

Walter remembered that their family's first car was a 1911 Rio which was purchased from Gottfred Lundstrom for \$1150. No one knew how to drive so they were taught by the seller as they drove the vehicle home from the dealership. Guess they didn't have to worry about a lot of traffic.

Elmer remembers a 1917 Studebaker, Hudson and Model A's. His brother had an Essex which made a lot of noise. They liked the noise...the more the better.

Walter said when they would get home with the Rio they would jack it up off all 4 wheels so the tires wouldn't touch the ground.

Elmer's family used a lot of horses to farm 500 acres. When they would plow and plant they could make about 10 rounds in the field in 1/2 of a day. Lightning killed more horses every year than sleeping sickness. Then they learned about grounding wires on buildings, so that helped.

At one time Elmer traded a bull for a white stallion. It was well trained and he rode him in parades. Einar had a colt from that stallion. He did well at the fair but one night a storm came up and lightning hit the horse and killed him. Lightning seemed so much worse then.

Walter saw the lightning bolt that hit the spire of the old Salemsborg church. He was in O.V.'s store at the time. They took a fire extinguisher and went right away. They were within 10 feet of the top of the spire....spraying water all the way. They just about had it out when Walter looked down and saw that the fire was burning beneath them. They had to leave and tried to go back but couldn't because they were out of water. They just had to stand outside in the rain and watch it burn. It occurred to him later just how close they came to being cremated. The roads were so poor the Salina fire department got stuck. Then the Lindsborg fire department was called and they got stuck in the mud as well.

Pastor Erickson, P.O. Nelson and someone else brought a wagon and cut out the altar painting. It's the one which appears above the altar at Salemsborg now. Pastor Erickson told them they did the best they could to save the church. He knelt at the altar rail and prayed. The fire was down in the church by that time and they knew it would all go. He said "Good-bye Salemsborg", and left. There was a terrible bang as the church bell cracked and fell through the floor. It's remains are a part of the stone pulpit just south of the present church.

A temporary church was made out of the old horse barn until the present church was built. The original contractor went broke because he bid the job too low. There were lots of volunteers that helped rebuild and a new contractor was found with a bid of \$70,000.

Thanks so much to Einar for sharing this wonderful family memory. It was a joy to hear the many stories from two descendants of original settlers in our area

If you have interesting "tidbits" of history from our parish which can be included in this special section of the newsletter, please give them to Donna by the 20th of each month. Call her at 785-668-2600 or email her at donlee@hometelco.net.

~~The food bank donation for the month of January is cold cereal.~~