

THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR

NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH

NOVEMBER 2007

Pastor's notes

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus....

1 Corinthians 1:4 NRSV

I couldn't think of a better way to start my November Newsletter article than with the above verse from Paul's letter to the Corinthians. November is the month of Thanksgiving so what better way to begin the article. They are Paul's words, God's Word and expressions of my feelings as well as my family's feelings towards this Parish. We do give thanks for all you do as you respond to God's grace that is written in your hearts. I also realize that giving thanks can't just be done once in awhile, once a month, once a year or once in a lifetime. It is something that we are called to do always.

We are called to give thanks in response to the blessings God gives us everyday. When we give thanks for those blessings, I believe it helps us to realize that we are dependant on God for what we have and who we are.

I know some of you may not think there is much to give thanks about. You may be hurting or you may be feeling like God has skipped over you when it comes to blessings. If or when you feel that way, it's okay. It is the way you feel. But, I will also ask you to remember what Jesus has done for you and continues to do for you. I will ask all of us to remember what he took both physically and spiritually for us. When we remember the abuse, the scorn, the agony of body and spirit that he took, how can we not feel blessed. I will also remind all of us that because of the Water and the Word, we are all part of a family; the Body of Christ. We belong to a group of people that are equal to each other. We are all Saints and Sinners! We are all redeemed by Christ's blood alone! We are all one! We are never alone! We lean on each other! We worship with one another! We forgive one another! We work with one another! When we think of all that we have because of Christ, we are blessed! We can give thanks!

Once again, I do give thanks for each one of you! I give thanks for how God works through you! I pray that I may always remember to lift up my prayers of praise and thanksgiving to God for all the blessings! May God move me that I may be a blessing to others also!

Happy Thanksgiving for a lifetime!

Pastor Ethan

Thanks for Confirmation Camp

Dear Falun/Salemsborg Lutheran Parish,

I just wanted to say thank you very much for your donation on helping us pay to go to Camp Tomashinga. I had a really good time and I am hoping I will be able to go next year.

Thanks again, Greyson Pihl

More Thanks

Thank you to all those women who contributed rusks to the Smorgasbord, and thank you to the men and women who helped with the Caramel Apple Sundae booth for Hyllningsfest. We made money and we also made lots of people happy!

Kristin Johnson

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 4th is All Saints Sunday. As part of the celebration that day, we will be listing names of those Saints who have died and now rest in God's hands. If you would like the name of a loved one listed, please write down the name(s) on a piece of paper (so it can be read) and put it in the offering plate at church before Nov. 4th. You could also send any names to Pastor Ethan or Donna. Thanks

Salemsborg Special Congregational Meeting

A special congregational meeting will be held at Salemsborg on Sunday, November 4th, right after worship services. All members are encouraged to attend.

Parish Thanksgiving Service & Supper

The Falun/Salemsborg Parish Thanksgiving Service and Supper will be held on Sunday, November 18th, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. All members of the Parish are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Flea Market, Craft & Bake Sale

The Evangelism Committee at Salemsborg will sponsor a Flea Market, Craft & Bake Sale on Nov. 10th from 9am to 4pm at the Salemsborg Fellowship Center. Lunch will be served. If you can make crafts to donate or bake some goodies...or donate items for the flea market, please contact Diana Fairbanks at 668-2749. Proceeds will go to help a needy family during the holidays. All members from the Parish are invited to participate in this special event.

www.fslc.net
salemsborg@hometelco.net

Parish Notes

Many Thanks to Taton Stambaugh-Tubbs for the special music at Falun for the Joint Parish Service on September 30th. His music was: "*Blessed to be a Witness*".

September 30th the UYG painted the White Cross on the Hill. They left after the joint parish worship and potluck, gathering at Salemsborg to "carpool" to the White Cross. All participants wore old cruddy pants and shirts with appropriate shoes. No sandals or flip flops were allowed! After the job was done, they gathered for pizza and soda. Fantastic job. It looks really great! Thanks.

What a nice surprise for Salemsborg's choir director, Kathy Gordon, when the choir surprised her with a birthday cake at Wednesday nights' rehearsal on Sept. 26th. She sends special thanks to everyone for making it such a nice evening and such a wonderful surprise.

Sunday Night Bible Study began in October on Sunday nights beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Salemsborg in the church basement. We are discussing the book *The Blessing* by Gary Smalley. It deals with the Blessings of the Bible and how they apply today.

All Salemsborg women were invited, and encouraged, to attend the Annual meeting of WELCA on Thursday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m. WELCA is a very important "arm" of our church. It takes many "hands" to do its work. Please note the change of date.

Many thanks to the Salemsborg Quartet, JuBELLation and the Adult Choir for presenting such wonderful music on Sunday, October 14th. We appreciate ALL your talents!

Maintenance Monday was scheduled for Oct. 15th at 9:00 a.m. Jobs that were to be done were: remove dead trees in the shelter belt and move broken piano out of the Fellowship Center. The event had to be cancelled due to the weather.

The Esther Group meeting for this month was changed. It was held Oct. 22nd at Anna Anderson's.

Please note the change of time for Theophilus Fellowship. It was a potluck held at noon in the basement at Salemsborg on Sunday, October 21st.

Next Saturday Oct. 27th will be the UYG Haunted Chili Feed beginning at 6:30 pm. It will be a fund raiser for the United Youth Group so bring yourself and friends to this fun event. Following the event, the UYG members will be having a lock-in. On Sunday morning the UYG members will attend worship at Salemsborg and then will probably go home for some needed sleep! Please keep all in your prayers!

The Worship/Music Committee will meet next Sunday Oct. 27th following worship at Falun; each member is asked to bring a covered dish to share.

The Lyons Club has a collection box for old eyeglasses in the basement at Salemsborg.

Receipts from Scott's Thriftway are being collected at Falun to benefit the Lindsborg Children's Center. The receipts should be dated after 9-1-07.

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. Thanks

If you would like to access information regarding Bethany College and/or events taking place there go to www.bethanylb.edu on the web.

The Noisy Offering at Falun for the month of November will be the Angel Tree.

Salemsborg will continue their noisy offering on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Any funds left over after the final completion of the Fellowship Center will be used toward a major maintenance project on the church building.

Choir Notes

A Choir Director has the awesome task of music selection. The anthem should be timely, singable, appealing and have its own musicality. November's choices reflect all of those traits!

Alice Parker's "Sing to the Lord", with early American harmonies, will honor the Saints on November 4th. For **Salemsborg's 138th anniversary**, brass, bells, choir and organ will unite together in a special anthem by Dale Wood on the 11th. For Christ the King Sunday, the 25th, the Grutenhuis setting of "Blessed be the Name of the Lord" is both challenging and melodic with tricky rhythms and a fast pace. This is definitely one you won't forget!

Our wonderful **Ding-a-Lings** bell choir will present a special piece for the 18th, Thanks-giving Sunday. Under the superb direction of **Nita Kay Carlson**, the Bells have never sounded so beautiful as they have this year. You must agree with me: *They're amazing!*

Finally, I thank you for the honor of allowing me to direct such lovely music with an amazing Choir!! *"Til we meet by the River..."* Joyfully!
Kathy Gordon

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 Jordan Heimer, Kendall Pihl, Larry Lamer, Sgt. 1st Class Eddy Carranza, Jason Dimitri, Vicki Everhart, Stacey Anderson, Fairlene Swanson, Robin Roets grandmother & nephew, Tom Hollopeter (Paula's dad), Harry Sandahl, Carol Brown, Betty Pihl, Pat Anderson, Melinda Ho, the Tunison family, Jim Gooch, Evelyn Peterson's daughter Kathy, Luke & Tabitha Peterson, Lois Peterson, Anita Neilson and her family, Pete Rickert & family, Valerie Rush, Gerald Walter, Mary Tillberg's aunt, Pastor Steven Little, Leigh Heller, Norma Oborg, Joan Garman, Bill Robinson, families in conflict, Jay Cromwell, Kathy Sadey, Deb Meyers, Brenda Kent, Jade Pihl, Janet Rowland, Diane Williams, Carolyn Johnson, Marjorie Oleen, Viola Miller, Wayne Goodell, Karen Miller, Rosella Oleen, Irene Dauer. If we have forgotten anyone, we apologize. Please let us know so we can include them next time.

Salemsborg WELCA

The Annual Business Meeting for Salemsborg WELCA was held on October 4th, 2007. Eighteen women were there. Discussion was held about the Hyllningsfest and the Caramel Apple Sundae Booth. They also discussed having two Prayer Tree lists. One for email notification and one for phone notification. They also discussed baby and wedding showers. It was decided that showers would only be held for first babies or first weddings.

WELCA ladies made 27 quilts and mended 13 flags. Five quilts were given to LWR, 4 to the Red Cross, 2 to Mexico, and 4 to the Rescue Mission. To the Salina Area Food Bank they gave 4 quilts, 7 sheet sets with extra pillowcases and fitted sheets; to the Ashby House they gave 4 quilts and 5 sheet sets; to DVACK they gave 4 quilts, 2 sheet sets and a crib mattress cover.

The Annual Soup Supper will be held on Tuesday, November 13th from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Calendar Group #2 is in charge of preparation and serving; Calendar Group #1 is in charge of set-up and decorations; Calendar Group #3 is in charge of clean up and after care. Each family (except those making soup) is asked to bring a pie which is cut and labeled as to kind. Everyone is invited to this event.

Falun Lutheran Women

The Falun Lutheran Women are having a Soup Supper at Bethany Home on Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. Mary Negus will set up and bring crackers. Suzan Madden will decorate, Shirley Bloomquist and Marilyn Smith are providing the dessert. The remaining members will bring a crockpot of soup. Bethany Home members and friends are invited as our guests.

Falun Lutheran Women need to bring gifts and cookies for Bethany Home Christmas to Falun Church by November 25th. Sign up sheet for cookies and gifts and gift wish list will be posted at the church.

Decorating for the Holidays

In the past, the Altar Guild has been responsible for decorating Salemsborg. The numbers of people who could help on a weekday evening has been in decline. So this year, we are trying something different. On Sunday, November 25th following coffee at Salemsborg, the congregation is invited to help decorate the property for Christmas. We hope there are lots of people who can stay and help. It will be a great fellowship time and a blessing for all who participate.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kris Erickson and Farah Wendelin who were married the last weekend of September. God bless you and may you grow in faith and love Kris and Farah Erickson!

Congratulations to Michell Lemen and family. She is a new grandma. Her oldest daughter Jenny and her son-in-law are proud parents of a baby boy. He was born at 2:15pm on Oct. 17th. His name is Caleb Alexander; he weighed 5 lbs. 15oz and was 19 inches long.

Salemsborg Sunday School Time Change

From now until the Christmas program, Salemsborg Sunday School will begin with singing at 10:15 a.m. Classes will begin at 10:45 a.m. Thanks

Community Hymn Sing

The Associated Music Students of Bethany College will host the 3rd Annual Community Hymn Sing on November 11th from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Presser Hall Auditorium at Bethany College. They would like each congregation to choose three favorite hymns to be sung at this event. Also, if you would like to present a solo or small ensemble please fill out the form provided. If you have any questions please contact amsbc@bethanylb.edu. Forms will be located on the church bulletin boards.

Mothers' Hour

"Hey Mom! Are you Speaking Your Child's Language?" presented by Lacy Krebs, is the topic of the Mothers' Hour held in Salina at the First Covenant Church. The event will be held on Nov. 1st from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. Childcare is provided free. Mothers' Hour is an inter-denominational ministry. For questions, call Coleen at 785-825-8340.

Food Bank Sunday

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

- January--shampoo
- February--Ramen Noodles
- March--canned meat stew
- April--coffee & tea bags
- May--sugar
- June--baking mixes
- July--instant potatoes
- August--dish soap
- September--tooth brushes & toothpaste
- October--toilet paper
- November--salt & pepper**
- December--laundry soap

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."