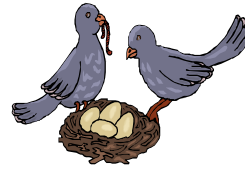
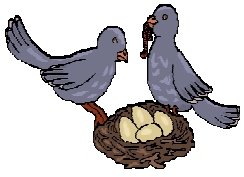


THE PARISH COMMUNICATOR

NEWSLETTER FOR FALUN/SALEMSBORG LUTHERAN PARISH

MAY 2009



On April 19th, 13 young men and women stood up in front of the Body of Christ at Salemsborg and affirmed their baptism. As is my custom, before they affirmed their baptism, they were asked to write at least a 100 word paragraph on a Bible verse of their choosing. The names of the youth, the verses and the paragraphs will be reprinted in the next two newsletters. Please take time to read them, the

youth did a wonderful job. The Holy Spirit worked through them. As one person told me on that Sunday, "It's always amazing how good these paragraphs are, they bring a tear to the eye." Enjoy and may the Spirit continue to lead.

—Pastor Ethan

Devon Zimmerman

"There is surely a future hope for you and your hope will not be cut off."

Proverbs 23:18

This is my Bible verse: "There is surely a future hope for you and your hope will not be cut off" (Proverbs 23:18). I think this Bible verse works for all of us in our daily lives. I also think that it just doesn't just appear out of thin air. You have to listen to God's positive messages about you. You can't dwell on the bad things about you or your life.

This Bible verse also means that no matter what, you can rely on God's help to get you back on track. Everyone's future is different, but as long as you allow God into your life, it will turn for the better. If you think a little deeper into the meaning of my verse, I think you will find that your "future" could also mean heaven. With that in mind, I challenge you to think about the bright side of your life, and don't dwell on your past wrongs.

Ashley Nichols

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer"

Psalms 19:14

Hi, my name is Ashley Nichols. I have chosen Psalm 19:14 as my favorite verse which reads.... "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer". I was inspired to select this verse from one of my favorite Christian music artists which is Rebecca St. James. She wrote the song "Mirror" that is based on this verse. The words of this scripture have more meaning to me

when they are put to music. I love this song and all the words because it reminds me to be more like Jesus with everything I say, do and think. So often in our world today people focus on our outward appearance. This verse challenges me to develop the beauty within my own heart.

Melissa LeLynn Wimer

"Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

I chose this verse because it gives me great comfort knowing that God is always with me. As one of God's children, I know that He will protect me and that I do not need to be afraid. I know that whatever happens, good or bad, it is all a part of God's plan for me. The bad experiences that I go through in life will help to strengthen me. With God's help I will be able to handle anything, and He will not challenge me with more than I can handle. If I put my trust in God, I will never have a reason to be afraid. I believe that if I have faith, I will always be safe in God's hands.

Mason Zimmerman

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

John 3:16-17

I wrote my essay on John 3:16-17. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." I think, to me, this is the most memorable passage in the Bible. It tells about how God loved the world and the gift that he gave us. The passage also says that you should believe in God and in doing so, he will save you and everyone else who believes in him. He was not sent down to find faults in people, but to save people, and take them to heaven. If I apply this to my daily life, that means to me not only to go to church on Sunday, but to pray and thank him because he sent his Son to save us.

This passage, overall, tells about what God did for us and how we can be saved. I believe in God and trust in him to guide me through my life.

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Tyler Peterson

“Be strong and very courageous. Obey all the laws Moses gave you. Do not turn away from them, and you will be successful in everything you do.”

Joshua 1:7

Often times, when people think of someone being strong or courageous, they think of a mighty weightlifter or a crocodile hunter. I’ve discovered that being strong and courageous in life requires more than dumbbells and taming of sharp teeth. It requires belief, and faith in the Lord. Through my relationship with God and Jesus Christ, I have gained spiritual strength. Throughout confirmation class, I have also gained a better understanding of the Ten Commandments and how following them will impact my life. In confirmation and Sunday School classes over the past several years I have learned about the Bible, the story of Jesus Christ, and all that he has taught us. I hope to always be a good Christian throughout my life. I thank Pastor Ethan, my family and the Salemsborg congregation for giving me this opportunity and blessing.

Emily Norberg

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold on my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Psalms 27:1

In middle school, there have been many times where God has been my light. And when situations often seemed so hard and confusing, I always took refuge in my faith.

I know in high school things are bound to be more hectic and dramatic, and that God will help me through these scary times.

This Bible verse is special to me because it means that God is here for me and with him in my life, there is no reason to be afraid. I have nothing to be scared of because God will take care of me on my journey to becoming a better Christian and pursuing my faith in God.

Confirming my faith is something I hope will not stop here, but continues throughout the rest of my life. I plan on becoming more active in the church, and living my life for God.

More Confirmands Scripture Paragraphs will appear in next month's newsletter.

Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sunday, May 10th we will be recognizing all the high school and college graduates lifting them up in prayer. Donna needs the names and their future plans, if decided. Your help is really appreciated.

Parish United Youth Group

UYG meeting will be on Sunday, May 3 at the Fellowship Center around noon. We will be working on a covenant and ideas for the Gathering. We will also be talking about the Worlds of Fun trip. Youth are required to be there if they are going to New Orleans.

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

On Sunday, May 31st, we will be having a joint worship service at Salemsborg. The worship service will begin at the regular time, 9:00 am. There will be a fellowship time following. If you regularly attend Falun and would like to help supply goodies for fellowship, contact Betty Pihl. It will be another time to get together, get to know each other better and get the Body of Christ jacked up!!

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Ethan and family will be leaving on vacation after the Memorial Day services at Salemsborg. They will be getting back home on June 3rd. In case of an emergency, contact your Council president—Jerrine Oleen at Falun; Mary Ann Carlson at Salemsborg.

New Members at Salemsborg

We welcomed new members to Salemsborg on March 29th, 2009. They are Keith & Shari Lindeman, Ethan Hendricks, Holden Hendricks and Kennedi Hendricks. We look forward to fellowship with them and building up the body of Christ.

Baptism at Salemsborg

Congratulations Christian Erickson on your baptismal day, April 5, 2009. God bless and keep you as you grow in faith and years! Christian's parents are Kris and Farah Erickson. His sponsors are Wyatt & Lindsay Wendelin and Kenyon & Stacia Erickson. God bless you as examples of the faith for Christian and may all remember that the Body of Christ is here for you!

New Baby at Salemsborg

Congratulations to Ben & Angela Dolezal on the birth of their daughter, Erin Elizabeth on March 25, 2009. She weighed 8 lbs. 15oz and was 21 inches long. She joins sister Lauren Christine to the family. May God bless them all.

Graduation Reception

Please join the Salemsborg Seniors of SVHS at their graduation reception. It will be Sunday, May 10th 2009, from 4-6 PM at the Fellowship Center. The students represented are Austin Anderson, Brandon Carlson, Nickolas Carlson, Chase Dippel, Kurtis Pihl, Maggie Pihl, Michelle Pihl, Tanner Scott and Jennifer Suppes.

Bridal Shower

All are invited to a bridal shower on Sunday, May 3, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. for Majkin Holmquist and Cody Whetstone. They are registered at Target and Hemslojd. Anyone who would like to help with the shower can contact Debbie Johnson

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!”

W/ELCA NEWS

Salemsborg W/ELCA

We extend a hearty thank you to Kristin Johnson for accepting the responsibility of chairperson of the wedding coordinators. This represents a commitment of time.

Ten members participated in the Quilting Day on April 16th. Thanks to each one of you who came.

Sherri Johnson represented our WELCA by extending an invitation to Clustor IIB to come to Salemsborg for the 2010 meeting. Those who attended report a very enjoyable and relaxing day and were glad they went.

Our thanks to all who had a part in our Salad Supper on April 22nd. The decorations made us feel like spring is here. The food was delicious. The presenters, Anna Anderson and Dr. Natalie Morgan, did a good job of informing us of concerns about breast cancer.

Coming up in June is our Synod Assembly to be held at Bethany College June 4-7, 2009. Our WELCA is responsible for 12 dozen cookies. Please contact Mary Tillberg if you can furnish part of the cookies.

Our Central States Synod WELCA will meet on July 24-26, 2009 at Manhattan at the Clarion Hotel. Reservation deadline is June 15th. Perhaps some of us could drive for the day. We need a delegate.

Falun Lutheran Women

Falun Lutheran Women met at Napoli's for supper on April 22, 2009. There were 24 in attendance. A Salad Supper will be held at Bethany Home on May 6th at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a salad to share. Table setting, drinks & dessert will be provided.

So far, no quilting day is scheduled for May. If one is scheduled, ladies will be contacted.

Care Boxes for College Students

The Salemsborg Evangelism and Social Ministry committee needs the addresses for our college students so "care" packages can be sent to them later. If there are any people from the Falun congregation who would like to help with this project, please let Pastor Ethan know.

The Evangelism Committee has also asked us to collect goodies for the college boxes. Items needed are: candy, cookies (store-bought or homemade), canned cheese, canned meat or packaged sausages, chips, microwave popcorn, etc. We have at least 18 kids. Deadline is April 19th. A box will be located at the back of the church or contact Diana.

Thank You

"Dear Salemsborg Church Family, Thank you for being there all the years I've been growing up and for your support of my college education. Sincerely, Clinton MacDonald"

Thanks to everyone who supported the UYG Lasagna Dinner Fund Raiser! Your support is so incredible! It is so appreciated! Thanks to all involved that made it a huge success.

Many Thanks to Rebecca Copley Johnson for her special music presented in honor of the confirmands as well as the choir for their special music on Confirmation Sunday

If you need to contact Donna Swanson with information for the bulletin or newsletter, you can call 785-668-2600 or email her at donlee@hometelco.net. Thanks

Easter Lilies

Given to the Glory of God and In Memory of Loved Ones

- * Dale & Marilyn Johnson in memory of loved ones (Altar)
- * Cecil & Evelyn Peterson in memory of loved ones (Altar)
- * Ron & Audrey Miller in memory of loved ones
- * Leon & Donna Swanson in memory of Kari, Josh and other loved ones
- * Wes and Karissa Shultis in memory of Kari and Josh
- * Myrl & Fairlene Swanson in memory of loved ones
- * Don & Betty Pihl in memory of Wallace and other loved ones
- * Ryding family in memory of Amos Ryding
- * Charles & Arlene Kelley & family in memory of loved ones
- * David & Peggy Crowl, Valrie & Matt Tarver, Austin Crowl in memory of loved ones
- * Kaylee, Kirsten & Kirk Heimer in memory of Harold Neywick, Vivian Johnson and Christina Heimer
- * DeVere Blomberg in memory of Philip Blomberg who passed away on Easter Sunday 1979
- * Bob Sandberg in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Sandberg
- * Ray & Mary Negus and family in memory of Axel & Edith Johnson, Vivian Johnson, Harold Neywick and Christina Heimer
- * Wayne Carlson family in memory of August Carlson, Ted Bjorkman and Edgar Swenson

Bethany College Events

- May 3**--Community Garden Planting--2 p.m.
- * Sandzen Music Awards Concert--3pm--Sandzen Gallery
- May 4**--Pearson Professor Jimmy Sjoblom Public Address--7:30pm, Lindquist Hall
- May 5**--Music Dept. Recital--2pm--Presser Hall
- * Jazz Ensemble Concert--7:30pm--Presser Hall
- May 7-12**--Amanda Wehrman Senior Art Exhibition
- May 8**--Swede Friday for prospective students, call 800-826-2281 or email admissions@bethanylb.edu
- May 8**--Opera Scenes--7:30pm--Burnett Center
- May 9**--Bethany College/Lindsborg Community Orchestra Concert--7:30pm--Presser Hall
- May 12**--Symphonic Band Concert--7:30pm, Presser Hall
- May 19-20**--BC Annual Art Sale w/work by students, faculty & staff, 9-5, lower level of Pihlblad Mem. Un.
- May 19-24**--Jennifer Margres Exhibition
- May 24**--Baccalaureate Service--10:30am--Presser Hall
- May 24**--Commencement--2pm--Presser Hall
www.bethanylb.edu

Memory Lane

In 1994, at the Quasiquicentennial Celebration, (1869-1994) in the booklet of Salemsborg Lutheran Church History, a letter was included written by Pastor J.A. Frost, whose childhood was spent at Salemsborg. He remembered in this letter to the congregation years later.

"I remember well the dugout church, where during rainy weather one had to place loose boards within the altar rind to keep from standing in several inches of water when conducting services. But even under such conditions, the Lord was present and blessed His word and the people who were more faithful in attendance, even though they walked on foot to the church or rode behind oxen. As a member of the first confirmation class in the dugout church, at which after I pledged my confirmation vows to God and for the first time kneeled to receive the true body and blood of Christ, therefore the memory of the simple church is dearer to me than the most beautiful temple."

If you have interesting "tidbits" of history from this 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.



Parish Notes

We met for the last class of Financial Peace University on April 5th. at 6:30pm. Child care was provided in the Salemsborg Church basement.

Thanks to everyone that made Confirmation day and lock-in a success, we couldn't have done it without your help. You are appreciated!

Special thanks to Greg & Ky Nichols for purchasing the music for Easter Sunday's choir anthem, "Crown Him With Many Crowns". It is an anthem with brass, organ and percussion that majestically celebrates Christ's victory over death and our promise of eternal life.

Congratulations Devon, Ashley, Melissa, Mason, Tyler, Emily, Kellee, Max, Holden, Briton, Martina, Hannah and Holly on the day you affirm your baptism, April 19th! It's an important day in your faith journeys and in the life of the Church. Congratulations to all and can't wait to work with you to proclaim the Gospel!

If you ever need Pastor Ethan, please give him a call. He needs your help since sometimes his mind/organization skills don't work the best, thanks!

If you have any one that is going to be attending confirmation camp at Tomah Shinga, please let Pastor Ethan know as soon as possible what week they are planning to attend, thanks!

Trip to Branson

Since the bus trip to Buhler was cancelled, Saline Valley Chapter of Thrivent is sponsoring a bus trip to Branson on September 18th-20th. A poster has been placed on the bulletin boards at both churches for more information.

Information on a Residential Appliance Replacement Program is available on the bulletin boards at both churches. The money which supports this effort came to Kansas from the government stimulus plan.

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 pea

December--All kinds of soup

Hospice of Salina

Hospice of Salina has served Salina and the surrounding area for over 30 years. They provide end-of-life and grief support services. Often these programs and services are not otherwise provided by local, state or federal entities. While they are able to earn a profit, more accurately a surplus, such earnings must be retained by Hospice for its future provision of programs and services. Earnings may not benefit individuals or stake-holders. We welcome those interested in volunteering for an organization rooted in community. If you share their passion for serving those at end-of-life and their families, please contact Kay Commerford, Volunteer Coordinator, at 825-1717.

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: LeRoy Pihl, LeRoy Miller, Mike Wineteer, Delores Ade, Shannon Moran, Jaden McBride, DeVere Blomberg, Mary Craig, Chandra McClure, Nikki Driscoll, Don Pihl, Cindy Dimitri, Edna Kvacik, Don Cheever, Robin Roets' aunt, Karson Schierling, Calvin Carlson, Marie Nelson, Axel Thomas, Gordon Gladden, Ron & Gayla Bloyd, Malcom Stambaugh, Kristy Bergstrom, Cal Williams, Caden Wekamp, Greg Aune, Carlina Swisher, Rebecca Copley Johnson, Kristine Govier, Kristine Govier's two friends, Seretha Johnson, Jennifer Hoffmans, Leann Marr, Vickie Everhardt, Allen Nicholson, Larry Lamer, Tom Hollopeter, Harry Sandahl, Melinda Ho, Jim Gooch, Evelyn Peterson's daughter Kathy, Mary Tillberg's aunt, Pastor Steven Little, Leigh Heller, Joan Garman, families in conflict, Kathy Sadey, Diane Williams, Carolyn Johnson, Marjorie Oleen, Viola Miller, Rosella Oleen. We also pray for many unspoken requests. If we have forgotten anyone, please let us know.