



Salem Lutheran Weekly eNews 9/2/26—9/9/26

"To share the unconditional love of God in Jesus Christ with all people, and to serve God by serving others"

Fall is my favorite time of year. I love the smell of the air, it holds the scent of the earth, and harvest, and chill, and the promise of abundance. I remember how I loved new clothes for school and the stiffness of new shoes. I still eagerly add fresh notebooks and a supply of paper and pencils and pens to my desk, ready for the work that awaits. I find a box of crayons and open it just to inhale the smell of creativity and possibilities. It feels like a time of opportunity and new beginnings.

In the Jewish calendar Rosh Hashanah (the head of the year) is celebrated in the fall, with the harvest. This year that date is September 12. There is a powerful connection between thankfulness for the past year's harvest and the anticipated gifts held in the seed for the coming year's planting. The celebration of the new year occurs in recognizing hope, the promise of a harvest next year.

I invite you to celebrate a new year this fall. It is a season of thanksgiving for the past and a recognition hope as Salem anticipates receiving the next called pastor. Together, we offer thanks for the past and share our hope in God's plans for this congregation. Let us anticipate the creativity and possibilities for our ministry in the coming year. Let us celebrate the guidance of the Holy Spirit, certain that God is at work in this season of ministry.

So, I will get new notebooks, sharpen pencils and gather pens for the work at hand. I will enjoy a box of crayons and wonder how God will color the future of Salem Lutheran.

Happy New Year!

Shalom, Pastor Deanna

I shared these words during my sermon on August 23,
Jacob was a cheater, Peter had a temper, David had an affair, Noah got drunk, Jonah ran from God, Paul was a murderer, Gideon was insecure, Miriam was a gossip, Mary was a worrier, Thomas was a doubter, Sarah was impatient, Elijah was moody, Moses stuttered, Zaccheus was short, Abraham was old and Lazarus was dead. Now.... what's YOUR reason for thinking God won't use you?

With you and I.... We join all the unusual people in God's work in history, today and into tomorrow...

God can use you where you are, God can use who you are....

Jesus says "I will build my church" and Jesus uses us. Jesus will use you!

September Birthdays



September Anniversaries

Stacie DiLulo	9/3	Melody Kue	9/19
Tracy Brown	9/7	Lowell Larson	9/21
Rick Anderson	9/8	Sean DiLulo	9/24
Mary Larsen	9/12	Dale Ragan	9/24
Rene White	9/19	Cory Grinaker	9/28

Chuck & Judy Jerman	9/2	62 yrs
Paul & Juniper Carpenter	9/7	24 yrs
Suzanne & Tayen Lee	9/15	36 yrs
Sean & Stacie DiLulo	9/26	34 yrs

The people of Salem are an amazing community. The staff of Salem are amazing people. Currently, we have staff members who are also members of Salem Lutheran. This is a reminder... not one of our staff is scheduled to work on Sundays. When they are present on Sunday mornings, they are here for worship and fellowship, they are not here to work.

As a community of amazing people who love for and care about one another, I am asking that you allow Laurie and Cory and Greg to enjoy worship and fellowship and not be concerned with 'working'. So, what to do if you have a 'work' matter to discuss, or a 'work' question to ask? Here's the plan:

1. Do not bring it up on Sunday.
Send an email with the information you want to share to the staff person (or use the general office@slcmv.org)
2. Leave a note on the desk in the office or in the individual's mailbox. (even place it in the offering plate, or write on the back of the Salem slip)
Make a phone call and leave a message. The church's phone number 360-336-3600.

Together, we will create a more life-giving Sunday morning experience for our staff, allowing them a 'day off' from work, so that they may be present in both worship and fellowship as a fellow member of the body of Christ in the amazing community of Salem Lutheran.

Shalom,
Pastor Deanna

GriefShare®

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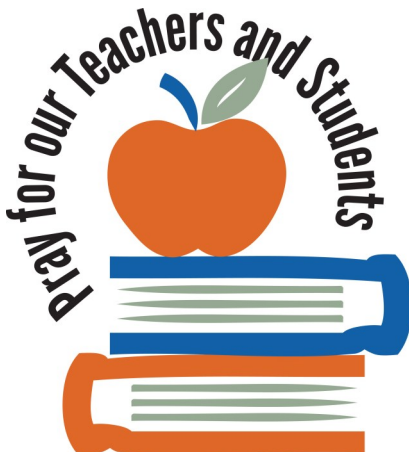
At GriefShare, you'll find a safe, comforting place where you can talk with others about your grief. You'll find support, direction, and guidance on how to make it through. The next 13-week session begins September 16 at 6:00 pm in the library. Books are available in the office. If you have any questions, contact Bob Slind at (360)421-4306

I Love to Tell the Story Potluck

Join us for the "I Love to Tell the Story" Potluck! Salem Lutheran isn't just a building; it is a collection of beautiful stories written by God through our shared commitment to this community. On **October 4** following worship, we are gathering for a special story-driven potluck. Come hungry for great food, and ready to hear (and perhaps tell) great stories.

What to bring: Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

The Story Challenge: If your dish has a story (an old family recipe, a comfort food from a hard time, or something you make for celebrations), grab a label card at the door to share its history!



As our children head back to school, we ask the Lord's blessing on each of them, as well as the wonderful teachers who help mold them. Grant them joy each day as they continue to grow into the people God created them to be.



Remember the Scouting Join Night Tuesday, Sept 8 at 7pm.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join the men of Salem for lively conversation and fellowship at
The Curious Chef
Tuesday, September 1 at 7:30 am



NW Synod Website

The Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA is our partner in ministry. Visit their site and you'll see resources, prayers, social media connections, directories, calendars, events, information on the larger church' work, social statements and news.



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