

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our mission is to reach out to others, proclaim God's word, share our faith and celebrate His love.

DECEMBER 2019

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ~ Luke 1:46-49

Mary's song was not her first reaction to the news that she would bear the Savior, but it comes when she has had some time to think it over. Her initial reaction came a few verses earlier with questions, "How can this be?" and then with a grace-filled acceptance, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

When Mary took enough time to consider the truth of the angel's message and the reality of her situation, she found her song. It is a song that rings in our ears every Advent and fills our hearts with hope.

This song was playing in my head as we visited the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth. The ceiling of the sanctuary was incredibly tall, so I could not help but feel small entering that space. As I walked down several flights of stairs, I approached the small, cave-like home where Mary is believed to have met the angel. The tiny little space surrounded by the grand structure emphasized the humble nature of the house.

So often in life, we feel ill-equipped to do the work God is calling us to do. How can we meet the needs of our neighbors when we are so small, with so few volunteers, when the need is so great? When so many organizations need our support, how can we help them all? Like Mary, it is natural, to begin with our questions.

Here we are all reminded how God enjoys using ordinary people to do amazing things. Mary found joy and peace in being used by God despite her humble circumstances. God also reassured Mary that she was not alone and that, through the work of the Holy Spirit, she would have the ability to accomplish all that would be required of her. She was just an ordinary girl, a teenager, nobody special. God used her to bring Jesus into the world. When she had time to pause and consider the greatness of her God, her thoughtful response was a song of joy.

As we enter the season of Advent, we consider the many ways in which we are invited to serve. May we also sing praises to the God who journeys with us now and throughout the year.

To God be the Glory,

Rev. Shari Schwedhelm

Rev. Shari Schwedhelm

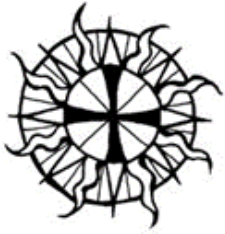


*Preaching and
Presiding in
December
Pastor Shari
Schwedhelm*



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Message	1
Women of the ELCA	2
Salem Little Saints	3
Baptismal Anniversaries	4
Birthdays	5
Wedding Anniversaries	6
Gratitude	6
News	7
Financial Update	7
Salem Information	8



"Winter Retreat 2020

"What Does this Mean"

Saturday, January 18, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1515 South Harrison, Grand Island

Registration 8:30 a.m. —

Program 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

STIR UP YOUR POWER,
LORD CHRIST, AND
COME. BY YOUR
MERCIFUL
PROTECTION SAVE US
FROM THE
THREATENING
DANGERS OF OUR
SINS, AND ENLIGHTEN
OUR WALK
IN THE WAY OF YOUR
SALVATION, FOR YOU
LIVE AND REIGN WITH
THE FATHER AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT, ONE
GOD, NOW AND
FOREVER.
AMEN.

Registration Deadline: Monday, January 13, 2020

Registration Form available on:

tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca

Send form and \$18.00 payment to:

Gwen Edwards, NSWOW Treasurer

Check payable to: NSWOW

3402 Castile Drive, Bellevue, NE 68123-1327

nswow.treasurer@gmail.com

Registration fee is transferable, not refundable

Speakers on horticulture, a visit to Poland, praying, laughing, and much more. Nebraska Synod Bishop Brian will be joining us. Plus a few surprises.

Spring Gatherings 2020

Mark your calendar for "Creation and Praise" reminding us "For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer" 1Timothy 4:4-5 NIV

Mar 7—Central, Stromsburg

Mar 14—Midlands, Fremont

Mar 21—Southeast, DeWitt

Mar 28—So. Prairie, Hastings

Apr 4—High Plains, No. Platte

Apr 18—Metro East, Omaha

Apr 25—Northeast, Dakota City

Registration fee remains \$18.00.

The registration form will be available on the NSWOW website, tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca, February 1, 2020.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

DECEMBER 1, 2019



SALEM LITTLE SAINTS

This is the 7th Annual Lutheran Family Services Giving Tree.

Lutheran Family Services has joyfully given us 60 children to help this Christmas season! Soon, 60 different tags will be located on a tree, next to the infant, with information on what would make this giving season more enjoyable for a child.

Please look at the tags, take a few home, and purchase these gifts with your child/ren. The generous act of giving can and should be taught at a young age. Then wrap each gift, tape the gift tag to the outside, and deliver it to the center by December 18th. We will deliver all the presents at once to LFS.

The children love helping load up all the gifts the day of delivery! Giving and being a servant of our Lord is a wonderful gift we love to teach to your little ones!

Thank you from Lutheran Family Services and your Salem Family for helping this giving season!

Miss Lily

Lily Bowman
Director of Salem Little Saints Childcare



STIR UP OUR
HEARTS, LORD
GOD, TO PREPARE
THE WAY OF YOUR
ONLY SON. BY HIS
COMING NURTURE
OUR GROWTH AS
PEOPLE OF
REPENTANCE AND
PEACE; THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST, OUR
SAVIOR AND LORD,
WHO LIVES AND
REIGNS WITH YOU
AND THE HOLY
SPIRIT, ONE GOD,
NOW AND FOREVER.
AMEN.



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all from the Staff
at Salem Lutheran Church*

PRAYER OF THE DAY
DECEMBER 8,

BIRTHDAYS

December 1
Kennlee Wavrin

December 5
Shana Clapper

December 7
Carter Neubert

December 8
Mark Remington
Alan Reeh

December 10
Nathan Siems
Harvey Ladehoff
Jayne Neal

December 11
Randy Bartunek
Douglas Hartmann
Craig Siems
Trenton Tank

December 12
Nicholas Leland
Patricia Anderson
James Carlson

December 13
Pat Ludeke

December 14
James Messerschmidt

December 15
Shaun Hoschiet

December 16
Raymond Snodgrass

December 17
Rod Hespen
Jill Phelps

December 18
Zachery Vogt

December 19
Christine Johannesen
Beverly Brei

December 20
Holly Hendrickson

December 21
Miranda Miller

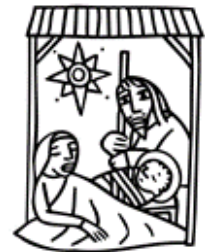
December 22
Katie Bishop

December 23
Dawson Holverson
Sheryl Kuhr
Emily Miller
Ron Mueller
Rowan Vanosdel

December 25
Todd Wheelock

December 26
Nicholas Novak

December 28
Dolores Dunker
Kloey Wheelock
Allen Braxton



STIR UP YOUR POWER,
LORD CHRIST, AND
COME. WITH YOUR
ABUNDANT GRACE AND
MIGHT, FREE US FROM
THE SIN THAT HINDERS
OUR FAITH, THAT EAGER-
LY WE MAY RECEIVE YOUR
PROMISES, FOR YOU LIVE
AND REIGN WITH THE
FATHER AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD,
NOW AND FOREVER.
AMEN.



PRAYER OF THE DAY
DECEMBER 22, 2019

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ted and Colleen Osterloh
December 2, 1977-42 years

Donald and Vivian Tank
December 14, 2000-19 years

Ernest and Jean Nick
December 16, 1961-58 years

Gary and Sharon Carlson
December 22, 1979-40 years

Gary and Karin Henken
December 27, 1966-53 years



O LORD GOD, YOU
KNOW THAT WE CAN-
NOT PLACE OUR TRUST
IN OUR OWN POWERS.
AS YOU PROTECTED
THE INFANT JESUS, SO
DEFEND US AND ALL
THE NEEDY FROM HARM
AND ADVERSITY,
THROUGH JESUS
CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR
AND LORD, WHO LIVES
AND REIGNS WITH YOU
AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,
ONE GOD, NOW AND
FOREVER.
AMEN.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
DECEMBER 29, 2019

*If we accidentally missed your
anniversary this month, please
let us know (402-721-6158)
so that we can correct/update
our computer records.*



GRATITUDE

+ + + +
Dear Ladies Thank you so much for shar-
ing your sewing talents by making lap
robes for our residents. They are beauti-
ful and the residents are very apprecia-
tive.

Thank you for thinking of us,
Dunklau Garden Residents

+ + + +
Thank you for the altar flowers that were
from Doug & Kathy Hartmann and family
and Barry & Diane Wilson and family in
memory of Delores Hartmann's birthday.
Thank you to Bernitta Wheelock for
delivering them. Most beautiful roses I
have ever seen.

God Bless you all,
Alberta Sick

Pastoral Acts in November

Funeral

November 26

Diana Brown

Ruth Circle will be serving coffee in December.

December 1—Sandy Terry, Jaki Heinrich

December 8—Cindy Sandeen, Cindy Gustafson

December 15—Bernitta Wheelock, Sandy Fenner

December 22—Janet Kletke, Barb Fanning

December 29—Men's Group



***Thank you Naomi Circle for
serving coffee in November.***

NEWS

Council Reports
are due by noon on
December 4, 2019

Newsletter articles
are due by noon on
December 18, 2019

LIFEHOUSE CARE CORPS MEAL for November was provided and served by Salem's church council. Residents enjoyed a sloppy joe meal. Janet Kletke is looking for people to drop off a salad, milk, juice, or vegetable at Lifehouse's main desk on December 3. Please contact Janet if you are able to help with food or a financial donation for ham.

Annual Holiday Service of Memories—Come and share with others in celebration of the memories of those who are not with us this holiday season. We welcome anyone who has experienced a loss, regardless of where or when. A candle will be lit, and you will receive a keepsake in memory of your loved one. Refreshments will be served. Dugan Funeral Chapel, 751 N. Lincoln Ave., Sunday December 8, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. Refreshments will be served following the service. Call 721-2880 for more information.

Adopt a Child—On December 8th Salem Little Saints will have a Christmas Tree in the narthex for Lutheran Family Services. Please pick a name off the tree and buy a gift for a child, wrap the gift, tape the gift tag to the outside of the gift and return it to Salem Little Saints by December 18th. They will then deliver them to Lutheran Family Services. Thank you from Lutheran Family Services.

Ordering Poinsettia—Be a part of making the chancel look beautiful for Christmas. Please bring your order form to the church office by December 11th. They are \$8.00 each. If ordering more than one use a separate form for each poinsettia. Make check payable to Salem Lutheran Church. Extra forms will be in the narthex on the table.

Mission and Outreach team – Salem has been involved in a variety of mission and outreach activities in our community this year. Flood recovery support activities have grown into relationships of trust. This important work deserves our attention in an intentional, consistent way. If you would like to be part of the team that is regularly supporting people who are still recovering from flood losses, join us. If you would like to be part of the team who is delivering winter coats to children who don't have them, join us! There is plenty to do, and more hands are always welcome. Ideas are welcome, and to see how much people appreciate our help will warm your heart. To join the team, talk to Sandy Terry, Tammy Flittie, Pastor Shari, or call the office.



Salem Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 24th

7:00 PM

FINANCIAL UPDATE	October	October YTD	Budget YTD	Designated Funds— \$91,998.57 Member Contributions— \$227,392.13
Income	\$22,389.80	\$245,463.31	\$222,209.00	
Expenses	\$25,963.45	\$243,544.51	\$259,467.50	
Net Income/Loss	-\$3,573.65	\$1,918.80	-\$37,258.50	

Matt Wilson, Finance

*Budget column was the predicted income and expense

Month shows negative because of some correcting entries made in the wrong income categories.

CONTACT INFO

Address

401 East Military Avenue,
Fremont, NE 68025

Phone

402-721-6158 Voice
402-727-0482 Fax

Email

slutheran6386@msn.com

Web

www.salemfremont.org

Facebook

Salem Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday

8:00 a.m.—Noon
1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m.—Noon
1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

WORSHIP

8:30 a.m.—Worship Service

Holy Communion on the
first, third and fifth Sundays
of the month

Fifth Sunday is a joint
service with St. Timothy
Lutheran Church
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

BROADCASTS

Radio: Big Dog 98.9 FM
KHUB-1340 AM

Cable: Spectrum
Channel 1304
Wednesdays
2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Thursdays
12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

EDUCATION

9:45 a.m.—**Sundays**
Intergenerational
Education Time

7:00 a.m. **Fridays**
Men's Bible Study/CG

11:30 a.m. **Fridays**
Bible Study/CG

CLERGY & STAFF

Lead Pastor

Pastor Shari Schwedhelm
402-830-4009
church.sharis@gmail.com

Salem Little Saints Director

Lily Bowman, Director
402-727-6300
salemibowman@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Verna Kimball
402-721-6158
slutheran6386@msn.com

Adult Choir Director

Rosie Parde
402-721-0944
salemrparde@msn.com

Adult Handbell Choir Director

Matt Wilson
402-727-9467
Mewilson520@earthlink.net

Custodian

Virginia Sagastume
402-721-6158

Records Volunteer:

Jeanette Stinemates
402-720-0692

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Assisting Ministers

TBD

Acolytes

Melissa Godfrey & Tammy Flittie
402-720-6491 or 402-981-0140

Musicians Projection Sound

Video

TBD

Children's Message Communion Set Up

Readers
Barbara Anderson 402-727-4585

Greeters

TBD

Ushers

Don Godfrey 402-720-6491

Signup Sheets for 2019 Altar Flowers, Radio Broadcast, and Donuts

are up on the bulletin board by the
stairway to the office.

December Dates Available:

Flowers: none
Donuts: 29th
Radio Broadcast: 24th, 29th

January Dates Available

TBD

Cost for flowers—\$30.00
Cost for Donuts—\$30.00
Cost for Radio Broadcast—\$150.00

Email Updates

Please contact the church office if you have an
email address and are not receiving the weekly
email news and opportunities that are
happening. Contact the church office at
402-721-6158 or email slutheran6386@msn.com

