

Salem Lutheran Church & Preschool

91 W. Main St
Springville, NY 14141
716.592.4893

www.salemspringville.org

Check us out on facebook...SalemLutheran Church & Preschool

To love God, to love people & to spread God's word



Love Your Neighbor As Yourself

“And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, ‘Which commandment is the most important of all?’ Jesus answered, ‘The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love

your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:28-31

God's peace be with you Salem family,

We live in an interesting time and the opportunity for God's love and protection to shine brightly through us in our world is here in many profound ways. Therefore, in the spirit of following the 4th commandment of our LORD which is honoring those who have been placed into positions of authority over us, and the 5th commandment with its meaning as Luther explains 'You Shall Not Murder' also includes our responsibility to "help our neighbor in every physical need", Salem is adjusting our many Ministries.

Please view our website on a weekly basis as the effects of the current Pandemic recommendations on our businesses and social gatherings are updated regularly.

For the rest of March into early April:

† All of our In-Person Ministry Events are cancelled. Worship, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Social Gatherings.

Over the next 2 weeks we are attempting to change from in-person group gatherings to electronic gatherings using the app ZOOM GATHERINGS so that we will be honoring our government's request to practice "social distancing" out of a profound love for our neighbor and their physical well-being. Loving our neighbor is not always easy nor convenient, however it is pleasing to our LORD Jesus.

The Ministry has not stopped at Salem; it has been modified by

con't on page 2

WEEKEND WORSHIP

Saturdays at 4:00 pm
Sundays at 10:30 am
Sunday School at 9:00 am

IN THIS ISSUE

- Pastor's Message
- Official Acts
- Rummage Sale
- Holy Week & Easter Schedule
- Marriage Builders
- Spaghetti Dinner
- Preschool News -
Amy Tillinghast
- New Members
- A Testimony by Dave Chandler



cont'd from page 1

using new technologies that we have been blessed with in our modern age.

Our WORSHIP services will be live streamed beginning this Sunday morning at 10:30 for all who connect using ZOOM through their android or iOs (iphone)

Please allow us to give you a brief introduction into setting up an account for you and your family members.

Zoom Meetings allow up to 100 people to meet together with a host (Pastor & an Elder) who can moderate and help control the experience. As the host, we will have full access to mute video or audio, allow individuals to join the group, and the group will end when we exit the meeting, 40 minutes. It is a safe way for our group to meet and allows for us to continue to build our community.

We recommend joining on a Phone :
Download the ZOOM Cloud Meetings app (iOS or Android). After opening the app, click the Join Meeting button and enter the meeting i.d. 545-800-8732 to join our Salem Springville Live gatherings. This should lead you to the meeting and place you in the Waiting Room until the host admits you into the video meeting.

All downloads are free whether on your Android or iPhone device. All you need is the meeting i.d. (above) for the meeting. This same meeting i.d. will be used each time we meet (every Sunday at 10:30). Please make sure you DISABLE the audio on your device. You may need to manually adjust this in the lower left of your screen.

We are working on our Bible studies to be conducted over ZOOM GATHERINGS as well, in order to have as much Christian support and interaction as we can during the Pandemic social distancing policy. The studies include pastor's studies:

The book of Daniel: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Discovering the Faith: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
OPEN ZOOM APP, click the Join Meeting button and enter the meeting i.d. 545-800-8732 Pastoral Counseling sessions are by appointment only. Pastor has been conducting them over FACETIME when video is desired. Phone Calls are always welcome if you would like to talk to Pastor: 630-338-6544.

DAILY OPPORTUNITIES ON ZOOM with Pastor: OPEN ZOOM APP, click the Join Meeting button and enter the meeting i.d. 545-800-8732

† "Morning Inspirations" - 7 a.m.

† "The Light of Jesus @ Noon" - 12 p.m.

† "Bedtime Bible Stories" - 7 p.m. (For Children)

President Chris Wicher from our Eastern District of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod has established a weekly ZOOM GATHERING for a time of Scripture, prayer, sharing concerns and encouragements. The District Zoom information is different from our church's. Every Monday & Thursday from 11-12. Their meeting I.D. is ID: 160 165 369 Password: 025152

TITHING is critical during this Pandemic for the survival of our church and its ministries. Without In-Person Worship we will be tempted to forget that our OFFERINGS are the only source of revenue that keeps our church active throughout the year.

We wanted you to be aware of the digital tools we are attempting to use during this unique time in our world, so that we can all continue to build one another up in our joy and peace as the children of God through our faith in Jesus Christ the King of Kings!

Remember my friends, it is not out of a fear of the Devil or disease that we make these adjustments. Instead, it is from a profound love for all our neighbors and doing all that we can to actively help prevent the Coronavirus infection from spreading needlessly through careless behavior.

God's richest blessing my friends and remember Jesus' words after His resurrection on Easter morning, "Peace be with you"! He is risen and reigning over our very life each day.

Pastor Eric Goodwin

John 3:16-17

Spring Rummage Sale

TENTATIVE DATE:
SATURDAY, APRIL 25 9 - 12
PM As you do your spring cleaning, don't forget to donate your gently used items (lamps, toys, dishes, furniture, picture frames, books, baby items household items, sports equipment) to Salem for the sale. Clothing will be accepted this year, as long as it is clean and in good shape. Items can be put on the stage in the social room or left at the meeting house.



Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 5 - Worship 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday, April 9 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 10 - 7:00 pm

No Service on Saturday, April 11

Easter Sunrise Service 7:30 am

Easter Worship 10:30 am



****ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE TENTATIVE**



THE SIMPLEST WAY TO RESTORE LOVE TO YOUR MARRIAGE

“God wants you to have a marriage full of love and full of passion.” Dr. Willard F. Harley, Jr.

“Regardless of how long you have been married or the current condition of your marriage, this class will help you make your love for each other last a lifetime. You will remember why you fell in love in the first place, renew your commitment to your marriage, and rediscover your passion.”

Pastor Goodwin will be starting a marriage builders class. Date to be determined. Please contact the church office 716.592.4893 or email www.office@salemspringville.org and secure your place in this class and be blessed by the life - changing and Christian marriage building experience.

Official Acts:

† Ruth Frank entered into eternal rest on January 20, 2020.

† Gavin L. Benkelman born on April 17, 2019 son of Joshua & Samie Benkelman was baptized on February 23, 2020. His godparents are Jared & Jenna Benkelman

† Mary Jane Irish entered into eternal rest on March 21, 2020. A service celebrating her life will be held at a later date.

Preschool News - Amy Tillinghast



February is Dental Health Month: The Preschool was visited by Dr. Amy Schmidt-Kingston and her friend Happy Tooth. The children learned about the importance of brushing their teeth everyday and visiting the dentist.

Also, thank you to everyone who purchased Easter candy from our Niagara Chocolate fundraiser.

New Members



† Teri Stearns, Heather Hayden, Don & Gail Ploetz, Donna & Bob Beach.

Community Spaghetti Dinners

TENTATIVE DATE: Thursday, April 16

TAKE OUT ONLY!!!

5:00 - 6:30 pm



A Testimonial — David Chandler



I was born and raised in Springville and my parents and grandparents were members of the First United Methodist Church in Springville. I was baptized there as an infant and as a child remember attending church there mostly only on holidays. Then as a teenager my parents started attending the Full Gospel Tabernacle in Orchard Park where I first realized that I needed Jesus to be a part of my life. For several years we attended church there until I joined the Army after graduating from high school. After serving in the Army I returned home to find my parents no longer attending church and in the process of getting divorced. That was very difficult for me to watch but I love both of my parents dearly and I am thankful to still have them in my life. I credit them with so much of making me who I am today and they ensured that I had a foundation in the Church that would later blossom in my life.

After returning home from the Army I was starting my own life and the Army gave me a chance to grow-up and it developed a drive in me to go to college and do something more with my life. For the next several years I was focused on college and then subsequently on my career while selfishly giving very little of my time (virtually none) to God. It wasn't until around 2003 when I met Carissa that things began to change. At that time Carissa was not regularly attending church either, but she had been brought up in Salem by my wonderful in-laws, Larry and Linda Balog. After being together for a few years Carissa and I went through some trying times which I believe made us realize (perhaps subconsciously) that we needed to bring God back into our lives.

Around 2006 I was deployed to Iraq with the Army Reserves and Carissa and I were married prior to my deployment. That deployment was another difficult time and another nudge from the Lord to get us to come back to Him. During my deployment Carissa sought God's word and fellowship at Salem to help her through the difficult time. After my return we started going to Sunday services regularly and I completed new membership classes with Pastor Pittock. I have no doubt that the Lord put us in each other's life to bless us and bring us both closer to Him. Our relationship has given us three of the greatest blessings and joys of our lives (Aliya, Kylie and Claire). Looking back on my life, I now see that even though for a period in my life I put Jesus second, He never once put me second.

As I write this testimony I find myself filled with emotion and I can't help but think about my life and realize how blessed I have been only through God's Grace. I thank God all the time for the blessings He has given Carissa and I and continues to give us even though we (maybe more I) fall short so much of the time. His Grace is truly amazing!!!

Pope Francis invites all to join him in prayer at noon

Pope Francis invites pastors and faithful of all Christian communities and denominations to “gather spiritually” to pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic.

By Francesca Merlo

Pope Francis on Wednesday renewed his invitation to the faithful following his General Audience to “gather spiritually to invoke God with the Lord's Prayer” for an end to the coronavirus pandemic.

The announcement, first made after his Sunday Angelus, invites “Pastors of the various Christian Communities, together with the faithful of the various denominations” to unite their “voices of supplication to the Lord in these days of suffering”.

“Shortly, at midday, we Pastors of the various Christian communities, together with the faithful of the various denominations, will gather spiritually to invoke God with the recitation of the Our Father. Let us unite our voices to beseech the Lord in these days of suffering, as the world is sorely tried by the pandemic. May the Lord, good and merciful, grant the concerted prayer of His children who, with trustful hope, turn to His omnipotence.”

If you are interested in sharing your testimony with us, please call or email the church office