Spring 2021 edition

# 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

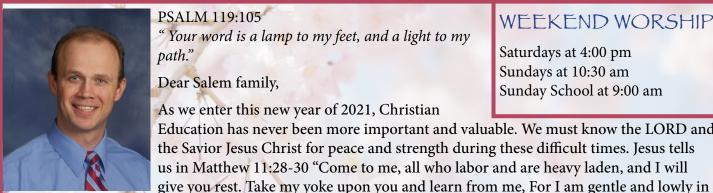


WEEKEND WORSHIP

Saturdays at 4:00 pm

Sundays at 10:30 am

Sunday School at 9:00 am



#### PSALM 119:105

"Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path."

Dear Salem family,

As we enter this new year of 2021, Christian

Education has never been more important and valuable. We must know the LORD and the Savior Jesus Christ for peace and strength during these difficult times. Jesus tells

heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Therefore, the Board of Education continues to work diligently to make opportunities available for reading, studying, and growing in the Word of God. Focusing on your life as a maturing Christian in the Word of God is the foundation that will never let you down.

As you are aware, our in-person opportunities for learning have been challenged this year because of the Covid 19 pandemic. We have been following the pattern of our public school system's decisions regarding this issue. This means that when the public schools are open for in-person classes, Salem is open for in-person Sunday School and Bible class. We are very happy to have reached a time when we can once again offer in-person classes. Beginning on February 7 at 9:15 a.m. we will have the in-person option available for Sunday School, Confirmation, and Teen Bible study.

There are two options available for you to choose from and register for: First will be in-person classes, and second will be a virtual online experience.

In order to have everything prepared properly, in regard to NY State square footage regulations, we will need to know exactly how many children will be attending the in-person option. Please fill out the enclosed postcard and return it to the church office by February 1.

While making the decision that works best for your family, please understand that either choice will be locked in for the remainder of the school year. If you choose the in-person option, then you will be committed to that decision for the rest of the year. If you choose the virtual option, then you will be unable to switch to the inperson option.

The In-person classes will involve the following guidelines:

There will be a classroom size Maximum

You must pre-register

At this point, we are very sad to announce that visitors to Salem will not be allowed to join our Sunday School

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classes because of the square footage requirements. However, ALL visitors are heartily invited to join us for worship.

Pre-Registered children must participate in a "sign in routine" every weekend.

- a. Have their temperature checked upon arrival.
- b. Either have filled out a weekly Health inventory online or fill one out upon arrival.
- c. Sign an attendance sheet (contact tracing).
- d. They must wear a mask.
- e. Please encourage your loved one to practice social distancing as recommended by the CDC.

The virtual ONLINE experience for Sunday School involves the following:

Each Pre-registered family for the ONLINE option will receive a packet of lessons for the remainder of the year. If you are new to the online option and do not have your packet, please notify the church office.

A video lesson for each week, recorded by Pastor Goodwin, will be available for viewing from our Salem Springville FACEBOOK page and/or website. They will be posted each weekend.

The packets will include all activities and student participation materials.

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 6 & 7 offers two options as well. The in-person option is the same as Sunday School, However, the ONLINE option for Confirmation will use a live ZOOM Gathering. We meet each Saturday at 10:30 a.m. for an hour.

We hope both of these options will prove to be a blessing for our Salem family. Thank you for your prayers and flexibility this year. It is our heart-felt desire that each of our families will continue to grow in their faith and confidence in God's powerful love.

Salem Lutheran Church & Preschool Board of Education



# Board of Education News

Giving Tree Update -

The Board of Education, out of concern for the well-being of our neighbors this year especially with the economic challenges that have impacted so many during the pandemic, chose to bless a local family for Christmas. During December, a "Giving Tree" in our narthex was filled with ornaments for specific gifts for this family. We are thrilled to report that the Giving Tree Project was a complete success - Praise be to God! As a congregation, we were able to provide the three children in the family with a great number of gifts. In addition, the family received \$700 in Tops, Wal-Mart, and Aldi gift cards.

God truly worked through our congregation for this family. Thank you for your participation in making this project such a blessing for a family in need at Christmas time. Thank you and God Bless!

Salem's Board of Education

Amber Widrig, Carissa Chandler, Jacquie Glenn, Lora Goodwin, Lois Kenyon & Tracy Dollas.



Drive Thru Nativity:

The Board of Education held a drive-thru Nativity on Saturday, December 12. Since we were unable to gather children or members together (NO Children's Christmas program this year due to Covid-19), we gathered a few families, animals and singing voices along with our Nativity scene. We plan to have one again next year!

## New Members:

† Robert & Elaine Heichberger were received into membership through a transfer from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Otto, NY on November 4, 2020

## Adult Weekly Bible Studies

### **SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:00AM**

This is a zoom study, led by Matt Fanton. Each session will be approximately 30 minutes.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 1:00 PM

A zoom Bible study led by Pastor Goodwin. We are working our way through the Book of Daniel. These sessions are for 1 hour.

Please call 716-592-4893 or email: office@salemspring-ville.org, if you are interested in joining either group. We hope you can join us!

#### **ONLINE ZOOM RECORDINGS**

See our website: www.salemspringville.org for worship services, Sunday School, The Light of Jesusdevotion, Bedtime Bible Stories for children



## Preschool News - Operation Christmas Child

Since 1993, more than 168 million boys and girls in over 160 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

# Official Acts:

### Baptisms:

† Mason Reinhardt born on March 27, 2016 and Harper Reinhardt born on August 28, 2019, children of Christopher and Samantha Reinhardt, were baptized on October 10, 2020, Pastor Goodwin officiating.

### Funerals:

- † Robert Hintz of Ellicottville, entered into eternal rest on September 20, 2020 his memorial service was held at Salem on October 3, 2020, Pastor Klahn officiating.
- † Phoebe Ornce entered into eternal rest on November 15, 2020. Her funeral was held at Smith Weistmantel on November 20th, Pastor Goodwin officiating.
- † Kevin Rolf, entered into eternal rest on October 29, 2020, his memorial service was held at Salem, on November 21, 2020, Pastor Goodwin officiating.
- † Paul Schneider entered into eternal rest on January 6, 2021. His memorial service was held at Salem on January 9th, Pastor Goodwin officiating.
- † Darlene Good entered into eternal rest on January 25, 2021. Her funeral was held on January 30 here at Salem, Pastor Goodwin officiating.

Ash Wednesday
FEBRUARY 17, 2021
7:00 PM SERVICE WITH HOLY
COMMUNION



### Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7:00 pm service - First Communion for our confirmands.

Good Friday, April 2, 7:00 pm service

Easter Sunday, April 4th - 7:30 am & 10:30 am services \*\*Pre-registration will be required on our website www. salemspringville.org for Services during Holy Week as we follow Covid 19 guidelines for those attending.

## Testimonial



We, Bob and Donna, grew up going to church in the city of Tonawanda, Bob as a Catholic and Donna as a Presbyterian. After marriage, we first lived on Buffalo's west side, then moved to Hamburg where Bob was a physical education teacher and coach. We joined the Presbyterian church in Hamburg because the people were friendly, compassionate, and family oriented. Both of us were involved in working with children, youth, adult classes, and groups. Both of us also served in leadership roles as an Elder and Deacon.

Through several incredible experiences, orchestrated by God, we came to know Jesus on a personal level. But most of all we are thankful that we were on that amazing journey together. The shared journey of seeking God's will for our lives.

Donna stayed home with our two children, Jennifer, and Elizabeth, while they were young. She worked as a secretary before the girls were born and in retail when she later went back to work. She decided to cont'd on page 4

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cont'd from page 3 retire after having back surgery.

Bob also volunteered with several organizations doing disaster relief and Christian outreach in Buffalo, Mississippi, Louisiana, Haiti, and West Africa.

In 2019 we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary, but our relationship spans all of our college years and most of High School as well. We have seven grandchildren who all live in Western New York, and we love that at least part of our family: Elizabeth, Mike, Sarah, Adelaide, Collin, and Ruth Weber are all part of a church community with us.

After many years of growing as Christians, we realized that the denomination that we were affiliated with, was advocating for several things that went against Biblical principles. So, we found it necessary to leave that denomination. Leaving our church family of 40+ years was extremely difficult. But, after fighting for many years to maintain Biblical Principles, it became obvious that the liberal faction had seized complete control. We still have many friends there. Some have decided to continue to fight, but we felt clearly that God was telling us to leave.

Through our daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Mike Weber we started attending Salem Lutheran. We love the biblical teaching at Salem and the way that Pastor Eric is rooted in sound doctrine. It probably took us longer than usual to go through the New Member class because we wanted to be absolutely sure of what your beliefs are. Thank-you Pastor for being so patient.

Being in this church community, which puts Christ and His teachings first has been wonderful and we look forward to getting to know everyone better and getting even more involved.

Bob and Donna Beach

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