

The Salem News

Salem Covenant Church
7811 135th St. NW
Pennock, MN 56279

Address Correction Requested



March
2017

Salem Covenant Church

Website: salemcovpennock.org
7811 – 135th St. NW, Pennock, MN 56279

Pastor Mike McCain

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Study 599-4574

Pastor Andy League

Children, Youth & Family Pastor

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Office Hours Mon. & Thurs. 8am-2pm

Weekly Church Schedule

Sunday:

9-9:15am-Coffee Fellowship

9:15am-Confirmation 7th grade

9:15am-Sunday School, 2 years-102!

10:30am-Worship Service

Wednesday:

6pm-Supper (during the school year)

6:30-8pm-AWANA, 3yr's.-6th grade (during the school year)

6:30pm-Youth Group 7th-12 grade

7pm-Adult Bible Study

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The Newsletter of Salem Covenant Church

Loving God; Loving Others

“Do You Have Enough Time to Pray?”



“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” - Hebrews 4:16

I have been reading a book on busyness. And one of the questions the author lists to diagnose if you're too busy is, “Do you have enough time to pray?” Honestly, the answer to that question is too often, “No.” It is easy to be “too busy to pray.” The cares of life encroach on available time and no time is left for spending time with God.

Martin Luther famously commented, “I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer.” I think Luther understood the truth that he was “too busy not to pray.”

But, hear me, this is not a guilt trip for all of us to feel bad that we don't spend 3 hours a day in prayer with God. More often than not, a lack of prayer in my life is not so much a statement about my time as it is a statement about my faith. And faith is hard.

Prayer is hard because prayer is an exercise of faith. In our mission statement for Prayer at Salem Covenant Church, we defined prayer as a “visible extension of our faith that looks away from self and looks towards Almighty God.” My default tendency (and yours too) is to look to myself to solve the problems that I face, rather than trusting in God.

Prayer is hard because prayer forces me to look to God. Prayer requires us to admit that we do not have the power to solve our problems. We are not “All Mighty”. It makes us admit our need for God. He is The Almighty.

Yet such is the mercy and grace of God that He drives us to prayer so we can admit what has been true all along: We need Him. And when we admit that we need Him, He is there to fill our every need!

My prayer for Salem is that we are a people of prayer because we are a people of faith. We should not be guilted into prayer or shamed into prayer, but we must come to trust and know that our needs can only be met through talking with God in prayer. Our only hope is in God and we know Him through prayer.

Yes, prayer is hard. Faith is hard. But most good things are hard. It may not be easy, but it is worth it. Let's let every week be Prayer Week this year.

Praying with you,
Pastor Andy

MISSION MOMENTS

By Kent Syverson

What a wondrous time is. . .SPRING!



From *A January Update* 2017: Franklin Graham had been in Iraq, where he dedicated the Emergency Field Hospital, located on the Plains of Nineveh, where Jonah had preached thousands of years ago. The people there have been under ISIS rule for two years. Homes have been bombed and loved ones killed. Those who try to escape are targeted. Eleven people had been victims of a car bomb. They wouldn't have survived if the new hospital hadn't been close by. Unfortunately, some of them died. But the medical staff was able to give all of them a fighting chance. In another part of the newsletter, one woman, Hiba (not her real name) has a six-year-old son, who was hit by shrapnel from a mortar blast. She tried to treat him herself, but then decided to take the risk and get him to the hospital. She started running with him in her arms. Soon she and her son were shot by a sniper. She said, "They shot me, but I kept going until I couldn't breathe anymore." Then she crawled. "She finally made it to the Iraqi Army, and she was taken by ambulance to our hospital. Our team rushed them both into surgery. The surgeon said he will never forget the moment he pushed Hiba in her wheelchair over to see her son after he came out of surgery and she gripped his small hand." Please pray for them.

John 14:5 says, "*In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*"

A letter from *City Union Mission*: How to help homeless people:

- 1. Never give cash to a homeless person.** They might use it to buy alcohol or drugs. Instead, if they're hungry, buy them a sandwich and a drink.
- 2. Talk to the person with respect.** Be friendly with them, so they will feel a sense of civility and dignity.
- 3. Recognize that homeless people (and their problems) are not all the same.** The people you meet might be abused, or addicts, or lacks job skills. . .there are a variety of problems, but many can be solved at the Mission.
- 4. Share God's love whenever you can.** Jesus would spend time with homeless people if he were on earth today. "Jesus works through those who believe and follow him."
- 5. Pray for homeless & less fortunate people.** "Exposure to the elements, occasional violence, and lack of purpose all drain years from a person's life. God can use your prayers to bring many of the broken to Him."
- 6. Take precautions for your safety.** Some of the people suffer from mental or emotional illnesses, and may not be safe to be around. Make sure there are others around you, where you can be seen.



MORE:

From *The Light* 2017 Winter issue: Kevin had suffered a series of strokes that left his body weak and his memory foggy. He could no longer live on his own. He was living in Atlanta, and his daughters suggested that he return to Kansas City. He had lived at City Union Mission once before, when he struggled with drugs and lost everything. He said, "I slept here. I ate the food. I was at rock bottom." When he beat his addictions, he got a job and donated part of his first paycheck to the ministry. Now he's back, and his health has improved. He takes part in the Christian Life Program. He said, "The classes are sharpening my mind and making me stronger." Kevin also knows that his needs are being met and their prayers are guiding him in his recovery. He said, "I'm actually glad the strokes came to send me back here to the Mission and the Christian Life Program." Please pray for them.

Remember to Pray & Visit our Nursing Home, Home Bound & Loved Ones

Bethesda Grand

Josie Tollefsrud - #206

Lorraine Watkins - #123

Bethesda Pleasant View

Maybelle Broberg - #103

Copperleaf Senior Living

Liz Rundquist - #206

Centennial Square

Dorothy Riley - #159

March Coming Events - "March is "Food Shelf" month"!

Saturday, March 4

10am – AWANA Grand Prix open to 3rd – 6th graders with weight limit of 5oz. Following will be an adult & alumni class, with a weight limit of 10oz. and no other rules apply! Anyone interested, please talk to Brian Friedlein or Taya Broberg. Car kit/per child is \$5 and \$10 for adult as an AWANA fundraiser.



Sunday, March 5

3pm – Willmar Area Food Shelf Fundraiser at WEAC, with the Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra will be in concert.



Friday, March 10 and Saturday, March 11

Family Promise of Kandiyohi County has been chosen to receive benefits from the "Market Under Glass Fundraiser", which is a 2-day vintage & handmade marketplace shopping experience in the beautiful greenhouse of Stacy's Nursery in Willmar. The greenhouse will be filled with hand-picked artisans & shops that stock a wonderful blend of treasured vintage finds, re-purposed or upcycled gems & hand-crafted wares.



Wednesday, March 15

6pm – Supper

6:30pm – Lake Beauty Bible Camp Kick-Off!



Friday, March 17 & Saturday, March 18

Women Ministries NW Conf. "2017 Renewal Conference" at New London Covenant Church. Theme is "Shine-Be Refreshed-Be Renewed-Be Transformed" Registration forms were put in your church mailbox, plus there are extra on the narthex table. You can register by mail or on line at: www.wmnwc.org. The \$40 registration is due Monday, March 13th.



(Ladies, just a reminder to pay your \$20 "2017 Women Ministries" dues to Julie Beckman. Please either give your dues to Julie or put them in her church mailbox.)

Sunday, March 19

11:45am – All are invited to attend Salem's "Chili Cook-Off and Soup Fundraiser Dinner" along with the 8th Annual Ping Pong Tournament! Please sign up on the bulletin board to enter both the cook-off & Ping Pong Tournament. Awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd winners of both events! If you have any questions please contact Pastor Andy at 615-439-8000 or aleague@gmail.com.



5-7pm – Mamrelund Lutheran Church, Pennock, "Annual Spring Churchmen's Fish Fry." Adults \$10 and Kids 6-12 yrs. \$5, Under 6 eat free! (*Only 1 Fish Fry this year, there will be NO Fall Fish Fry.*)



Friday, March 24

7-9pm – "All Church Roller Skating" at the Benson Armory! Only \$5 to get in and rent skates.

You're also welcome to bring your own skates or blades! Children from 1-99 can skate!



Sunday, March 26

4pm–Willmar Area Food Shelf Fundraiser at Bethel Lutheran Church, with the Woodbury Orchestra in concert.

Praying for our Covenant National Missionaries

- March 5 Konroy & Heidi Boeckel - Education of Missionary Children; Community Outreach. 2010-present. (Heidi is the daughter of Rudy & Nancy King.) *The Boeckel was at Salem in February of 2014.*
- March 12 Roy & Aleta Danforth – Agriculture; Community Development; Health; Evangelism & Outreach. 1978-present. *Roy was at Salem in October 2015.*
- March 19 Kent & Rhonda Egging – Supporting Ministries 214-present.
- March 26 Chris & Jenny – Leadership Development; Christian Formation; Pastoral Call. 2009-2011 and 2016-present.

March 2017 Family Prayer List

- 1 Tayler Carlson
- 2 Grant Carlson
- 3 Jerome & Gretchen Carlson
- 4 LuAnn Carlson
- 5 Marvin & Pat Carlson
- 6 Mark & Tonia Danielson, Caden & Ryley
- 7 Marna Danielson
- 8 Adam & Melanie Dickman, James, Rebekah, Tabitha & Jonathan
- 9 Craig & Shawn Dischinger, Jack & Peter
- 10 Emily Fagerstrom
- 11 Bruce & Mary Felt
- 12 Brian & Linda Friedlein
- 13 Lucas Friedlein
- 14 Don & Donna Friedlein
- 15 Tom & Darcy Froehlich, Luke, Teagan, Cole & Shane
- 16 Aaron Fuchs
- 17 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs
- 18 Kevin Fuchs
- 19 Michael Fuchs
- 20 Trent & Angela Furney, Jaron & Zee
- 21 Steve & Sheila Geurtz
- 22 Ashley Geurtz
- 23 Dean & Barb Gunderson
- 24 Kelsey Gunderson
- 25 Matthew Gunderson
- 26 Stacy Gunderson
- 27 Mike Haglund
- 28 Ralph & Jean Halverson
- 29 Bruce & Patti Hoaglund
- 30 Doug & Darlene Holmgren
- 31 Duane & Brianna Holmgren, Emma, Lily & Brinley



March Anniversaries

8th Paul & Kali Beckman – 3yrs
18th Jerome & Gretchen Carlson – 45yrs



March Birthdays

- 2 Abbie (Martin)Ardoff
- 3 Owen Tollefsrud
- 4 Kyle Broberg
- 6 Steven Holmgren
- 6 Bethany Rothers
- 7 Brinley Holmgren
- 11 Quin Peterson
- 12 Kelly Sweere
- 12 Theolena (Lena) Ballance
- 17 Henrick Hulscher
- 19 Andy Akerson
- 20 Sheila Geurtz
- 23 Harry Johnson
- 24 Mike Haglund
- 26 Marvin Carlson
- 29 Donna Friedlein
- 29 Ron Johnson
- 31 Dorothy Broberg

March 2017 Greeters

- 5 Alan & Jill Carlson
- 12 Don & Donna Friedlein
- 19 Marv & Barb Sandvig
- 26 Bruce & Patti Hoaglund



March 2017 Nursery

- 5 Eric & Becky Peterson
- 12 Craig & Shawn Dischinger
- 19 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs
- 26 Tom & Darcy Froehlich



March 2016 Ushers

* *Craig Dischinger*, Duane Holmgren, Brant Beckman, Randy Broberg, David Beyerl, Ron Aleshire & Gary Beckman. **Denotes head usher*

