

The Salem News

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

Address Correction Requested



Salem Covenant Church

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

Pastor Mike McCain

pastormike@mvtvwireless.com

Study 599-4574

Pastor Andy League

Children, Youth & Family Pastor

aleague@gmail.com

Office 599-4555

Cell 615-439-8000

Office Manager: Bernadette Fuchs

salemcovenant@mvtvwireless.com

Office 599-4734, Home 599-4340, Cell 894-9305

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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Volume X

April, 2017

Issue 7

The Newsletter of Salem Covenant Church

Loving God; Loving Others

“The Sufferings of Christ and Our Sufferings”



“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart, I have overcome the world.” - John 16:33

It is certainly true that if you live long enough, you will have to endure suffering. Personally, there is little that I would rather avoid than suffering. Yet, as a fact of life in this sin-sick world, the question is not “Will I suffer?” but rather “How will I respond to the suffering that I face (that God allows)?” Will my suffering or the suffering of those around me cause me to know God more deeply? Or will it pull me away from God?

Thomas Merton wrote of suffering:

“The effect of suffering upon us depends on what we love. If we love only ourselves, suffering is merely hateful. It has to be avoided at all costs. It brings out all the evil that is in us, so that the one who loves only himself will commit any sin and inflict any evil on others merely in order to avoid suffering himself. [But] If we love God and love others in him, we will be glad to let suffering destroy anything in us that God is pleased to let it destroy, because we know that all it destroys is unimportant. We will prefer to let the accidental trash of life be consumed by suffering in order that his glory may come out clean in everything we do.”

During this season of Lent, we remember the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf. Jesus suffered the full weight of sin and God’s wrath against sin on the cross. In His death and resurrection, Christ conquered sin and death. And once death has been conquered, what is there left to fear? Suffering is not the end. Jesus has given us hope, even in the midst of suffering.

This is why Paul wanted so desperately to “know Christ and the power of his resurrection and *the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings...*” (Phil. 3:10). Paul understood that since Christ has been raised, suffering for the Christian has been robbed of its power. He could accept and endure suffering because it glorified Jesus as the one who overcame all suffering, sin, and death.

Suffering cannot separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39). As Christians, we can rejoice even in our sufferings because suffering points us to the greater hope we have in Christ Jesus our Lord, as James (1:2) and Peter (1 Pet. 1:6-8) testify. Jesus told us we will have troubles in the world and gave us hope: “Take heart, I have overcome the world.” (Jn. 16:33)

Let us take heart even in the midst of our sufferings, my brothers and sisters, because in Jesus there is hope! He has overcome all our sufferings.

On the Journey with you,

Pastor Andy

MISSION MOMENTS

By Kent Syverson

Jesus is the Bread of Life--he rose.



A letter from *Mercy Ships* February 2017: Ria, a volunteer nurse, found Elina hiding in the bushes near the hospital ship. Elina had been severely burned following a family dispute. The burns left her permanently disfigured and in constant, terrible pain. Her mother couldn't afford medical care, so Elina was left untreated. Almost a year later, she was brought to Africa Mercy. A good thing too, since an infection had set in. **"Elina needed a miracle."** Ria decided to fight for her.

There were months of wound care before she could have surgery. Then there were several surgical procedures and skin grafts. "Freeing her to start a new life." "Children like Elina often spend months recuperating onboard our hospital ship. These boys and girls grow deep bonds with our volunteers who lovingly care for their wounds, pray with them, wipe away their tears, and act silly, hoping for a smile." MORE:

Another letter from *Mercy Ships* March 2017: Prinscio was born with a severe deformity: bilateral club feet. His parents couldn't afford surgery, and had spent a lot on "healers" who couldn't help. Prinscio was two when he learned to walk on his badly twisted feet. But people would stare at him, and he hated that. "In some of the world's poorest places, children like Prinscio. . .are praying for a miracle." Prinscio was excited to hear about Mercy Ships, where they could fix his feet for free! He wanted to ride a bike and play football with the other kids. "Today Prinscio walks with confidence, flat on the soles of his restored feet." Please pray for them.

A letter from *Sudan Relief Fund*: In South Sudan, fetching water is the job of girls and young women. Sometimes they have to walk miles over parched land to get water from a river, mud hole or wherever the water may be. Dirty water is dangerous to drink. It causes a variety of diseases. That's not the worst of it. Once the girls leave the safety of the village, they become the targets of gang members. The girls are often stripped naked, beaten and raped. They might even get maimed, disabled or even killed by bombs or landmines. Sudan Relief Fund is committed to drilling wells in these villages, which means that the girls and young women can avoid the dangers of leaving the village. **"Clean, drinkable water is necessary for life. It is more vital than food or shelter."** It will also eliminate the diseases that come from drinking contaminated water. 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

April 2017 Family Prayer List



- 1 Mariann Holmgren
- 2 Steven Holmgren
- 3 Jesse & Maria Hulscher, Henrick & Adler
- 4 Jim & Judy Huseby
- 5 Ardell & Katie Johnson
- 6 Ben & Tia Johnson, Elizabeth, Gideon, Simeon & Anika
- 7 Blake Johnson, Zachery
- 8 Craig & Renee Johnson
- 9 Hannah Johnson, Maddie & Xara
- 10 Harry & Mary Johnson
- 11 Jared & Jessica Johnson
- 12 Jessica Johnson
- 13 Jonah Johnson
- 14 Jordan & Ceena Johnson
- 15 Justin Johnson
- 16 Lane Johnson
- 17 Larry & Paulette Johnson
- 18 Perry Johnson
- 19 Ron & Karen Johnson
- 20 Sam Johnson
- 21 Scott Johnson
- 22 Tim & Cindy Johnson
- 23 Todd & Erica Johnson, Haylee, Ely & Noah
- 24 Troy Johnson
- 25 Vernice & Grace Johnson
- 26 Warren & Stacy Johnson, Andrew, Johanna, Paul & Collin
- 27 Chad & Rochelle Kallstrom, Brandon, Matthew & Hunter
- 28 Erv & Cathie Kallstrom
- 29 John & Lucinda Kluver
- 30 Pastor Andy & Shannon League, Josiah & Esther

April Servers 2017

April Greeters

- 2 Herb & Joyce Beckman
- 9 Bill & Dorothy Broberg
- 16 Craig & Renee Johnson
- 23 Ethan & Sharon Calvin
- 30 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs



April Nursery

- 2 Mark & Denise TeBrake
- 9 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs
- 16 Barb Sandvig & Kelly Sweere
- 23 Kara Rothers & Girls
- 30 Ron & Karen Johnson



April Ushers

*Bob Fuchs, Ben Johnson, Ron Johnson, Mark Te Brake, Eric Peterson, Aaron Fuchs and Kevin Fuchs. *Denotes head usher



April Anniversaries

- 4th Dean & Barb Gunderson-31yrs
19th Duane & Brianna Holmgren-14yrs
23rd David & Dawn Capp-12yrs



April Birthdays

- 2 Veda Ericson
- 4 Becky Peterson
- 4 Kelsey Gunderson
- 4 Ella Beyerl
- 12 Christy Arends
- 17 Steve Geurtz
- 18 Angela Furney
- 20 Kari Thompson
- 25 Justin Johnson
- 25 Teagan Froehlich
- 27 Allison Stricherz
- 27 Kirby Peterson
- 28 Howard Carlson
- 29 Marv Sandvig



April Coming Events

Monday, April 3

Last day to sign up for Lake Beauty Bible Camp "Early Bird" Registration! Early bird registration is a \$10 discount for Frontier kids (1st – 2nd grade) and \$20 for all other camps. *Take advantage of the discount, register early!!*

2017 LBBC Camping Codes:

2017 LBBC Camping Codes: This year: put the codes in the \$Financial Section, then press "Make Payment" then it will ask if you have a transfer code, press yes & next, enter your code.

Frontier Kids #2 July 6-8 Amount: \$210 **Code: 17SALEM85**
(Salem provides \$85 for Frontier kids)

Code: 17SALEM125

Trailblazer #1 June 18-22 Amount: \$360,
Jr High #1 June 11-16 Amount: \$370,
Sr High July 30-Aug 4 Amount: \$375
(Salem provides \$125 for Trailblazer, Jr. & Sr. High)



Friday, April 7

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!



Saturday, April 8

11am – Salem's Women Ministries will be hosting an area wide "Spring Fling"! It's a Spring Luncheon with special guest speaker, Grace Johnson. Grace is an accomplished potter with a studio in Willmar. Complimentary tickets are available in the office. Invite your friends and neighbors! You won't want to miss it!!



Sunday, April 9

Community VBS, "Passport To Peru-Discovering God's Good Gifts" kids & adults registration forms are due into the church office. Community VBS will be Monday June 5 - Friday June 9 at Kerkhoven Free Church. Supper 5:15-6pm and VBS 6-8:30pm. (Salem will be cooking supper on Thursday night, June 8th, more information to come.)



Those of you who would like to bring an Easter Lilly or another type of plant to church in *memory of loved ones* for Easter Sunday, April 16th. Please let Bernadette know this information by Palm Sunday, April 9th: Your name, Type of Plant, Color of Plant, In memory of. You can also email me the information at salemcovenant@mvtvwireless.com



Thursday, April 13

7pm – Salem's Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

Friday, April 14

9:30am - Men's Ministries Good Friday Brunch at Salem. More information to come

10am – Women Ministries Good Friday Coffee at Cornerstone Coffee in Willmar



Saturday, April 15

9am - Salem's inside/outside workday, both men & women are WELCOME to help!



Sunday, April 16 – Easter Sunday

No Sunday School

9-10am – Easter Breakfast, hosted by camp kids. The free will offering will go towards the kids who are going to Lake Beauty Bible Camp this summer.

10:30am – Worship/Adult Choir/Kids Choir

Noon–5pm - Marvin Carlson's Family Easter at Salem

(cont. April Coming Events)

Monday, April 17

“Earth Week!” Donate your aluminum cans to Salem “Can Drop Off Box” located in the North parking lot!!! This is a fundraiser for kids going to camp this summer. *Please drop off your aluminum cans before April 17th so the LBBC board members can bring the can in to be recycled.*



Thursday, April 20-Saturday, April 22

Xtreme Character Challenge, Red River Gorge, Kentucky. For more information please contact Craig Dishinger at 320-420-4012.

It will be our turn to serve for Family Promise again the week of April 23rd. We are responsible for **Tuesday, April 25th**, as well as **Friday, April 28th**. If the current family is still in the program, we will need activities people as well. Only 2-3 people are needed for each evening. Please contact Linda Friedlein at 235-7166 if you are willing to help, thanks, Linda!



Thursday, April 27

Ministerial Association NWC Annual meeting at Maple Grove Covenant Church

Friday, April 28 - Saturday, April 29

133rd NWC Annual meeting at Maple Grove Covenant Church



Praying for our Covenant National Missionaries

- April 2 Marta Klein – Medical Work; Public Health. 2014-present; 2010-2013
- April 9 Fred & Kelly Prudek – Pastoral Training, Leadership Development; Christian Formation; Spiritual Direction; Combating Human Trafficking; Prison Ministry. 1999-present
- April 16 Ken & Adrienne Satterberg – Mosaics Project; Anit-Trafficking/Woman in Prostitution. 1989-present
- April 23 Christy Taylor – Education, 2010-present
- April 30 Phillip & Stephanie Volland – Evangelism & Discipleship 2016-present



May is “Meals on Wheels” for Salem!

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you want to drive

Church League Softball

May 2nd is the last day to register for Willmar Community Ed “Gold” Church League Softball. The first Thursday night game will be on May 11th at Swanson’s Field. If you are interested in heading up the “Gold Team” please contact Bernadette.



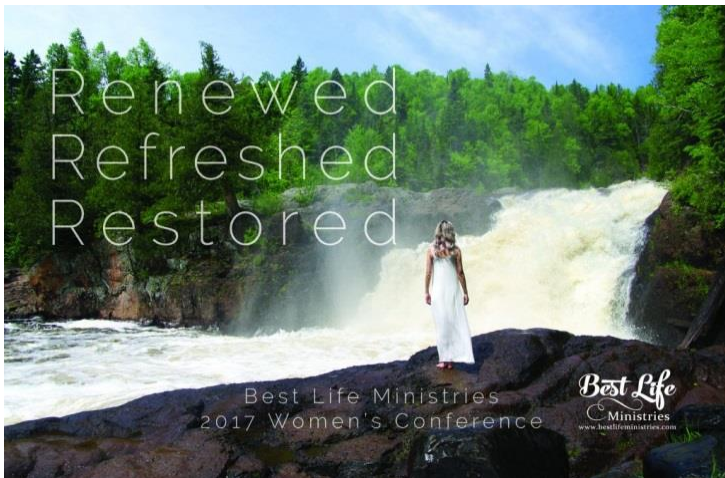
Is there a COLLEGE graduate in your family this spring?

If so, please email Bernadette at www.salemcovenant@mvtvwireless with information about what college, degree & employment. THANK YOU! ☺

Salem Mission Trip

Mark your calendars for **June 10-17, 2017**. We will be going on our 2nd mission trip to “Lives Under Construction Boys Ranch” in Lampe, Missouri. First trip was 6 years ago in June 2011. Please pray about attending. All ages welcome. More details to come.





**Best Life Ministries and
Church in the Grove**
1025 Hwy. 29 SE Benson

Saturday, May 13, 2017
8:30am–2:45pm

One Day Women's Conference
“Renewed. Refreshed. Restored.”

Executive Director Of Best Life Ministries & Author, Kathy A. Weckwerth–*Renewed. Refreshed. Restored.*



Feeling overwhelmed, overworked and overtired? Have you been pushed to extremes, drained of energy and emptied of joy? This year's Best Life Conference will help you *renew* your mind, *refresh* your soul, and *restore* your heart.

Best Life will help you understand God's desire for you to live life to the fullest. By accepting His forgiveness and developing a deeper relationship with Him, you are made new. God, the Redeemer and Restorer, desires for you to live your *Best Life!* (kathyweckwerth.com)

Motivational Speaker, Kathleen Sogge–*Replacing the Stress With God's Best*

Today's women are completely consumed with everyday demands. The pressures of home and family, work, church, and keeping everything together present a heavy burden to carry. In this workshop, Kathleen will help you with Biblical strategies on how you can *rethink* what's causing your high stress level, *redesign* your lifestyle, and *rebuild* a stronger reliance on God.



Author & Motivational Speaker, Sandra Sheih–*Living Your Best Life With Authentic Prayer*



In this motivating workshop, Sandra describes what authentic prayer looks like by answering the following questions: *What is prayer? Why should I pray? How do I pray?* Be inspired to take your prayer life on a profound journey as you seek God to become *refreshed* and *restored* from spending time with God.
(www.abundantlyfreecooking.com)

**Tickets: Free will offering,
Lunch provided by the church.**
bestlifeministries.com

Any questions, please contact Bernadette Fuchs at 320-894-9305

