



LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEW SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

7491 Island View Dr. NE Turtle River, MN 56601

Pastor Terry Hagensen

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MARCH 2025

Monthly Events

March 4th



March 5

March 9

SPRING FORWARD!

Service group meeting

March 6, 13, 20, 27
9:30 AM
Bible Study

March 10 & 14
Food Shelf
9:00am—
12:15pm
12:00pm—
3:15pm

March 5 & 19
Confirmation

March 14 *Pi Day*

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY
March 17

March 18
6:30 pm Council
6:00 pm Teams



Beloved of Christ

How often have we heard someone say, "Oh, that's good enough?" If that's all you can do, I guess it'll have to do. I don't see this as a compliment, more of a judgment of disappointment.

Would you receive these words from God as support and encouragement, or could you have done better? As Christians, we often feel or even believe we're not enough somehow; we've let it keep us from seeing ourselves as God sees us: beloved children of God. We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility.

Our midweek Lenten theme comes from. Katie Bowler and Jessica Richie's book "Good Enough, 40ish devotionals for a life of imperfection." Here is how she understands the world: "We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility- climbing ladders of prosperity with increasingly fabulous experiences that we can post to ever-more-likable social media accounts. We may comb the shelves of the self-help section in search of just the right formula to gain success. Perhaps we even gravitate towards spiritual leaders who promise great rewards if we only do "the right thing." But life happens, right? Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we've just slipped from. So what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves?"

Welcome to a Lent of affirming a faith in which we are blessed, *regardless*, and where we can lean into embracing our "good enough" lives.

The themes for each week:

- Lent 1: Ordinary lives can be holy
- Lent 2: So much is out of our control
- Lent 3: Lots of things can be medicine
- Lent 4: We often believe we are the problem
- Lent 5: We are fragile
- Maundy Thursday: We are blessed, regardless

I hope you'll give yourself the time each week to let God's word heal you and give you new insights. To hear God's leading, we must be gracious with ourselves as God is gracious with us.

Blessings, Pastor Terry

*New Salem Lutheran Church is a Community of Christians having a mission to serve others through **Hospitality** and **Caregiving** and inviting all people into a life-giving relationship with Jesus through worship and discipleship.*

Meet your 2024-25 New Salem Council
 President: Rick Bogart
 Vice Pres: Eric Medberry
 Secretary: Calli Ferdig
 Treasurer: Sue Rosselet
 Graig Gilbertson Nora Illies
 Sonya Kraft Fred Sanford Bob Wagner
 Council meets at 6:30 on the 3rd Tuesday
 of each month.

Join our Ministry Teams
 Worship & Music Youth & Education
 Building & Grounds Stewardship & Outreach
 Teams meet at 6:00 on the same evening.



We will be collecting items for our next round
 of **Birthday Bags for our Food Shelf.**



We need **cake mixes**
 (white, yellow,
 chocolate), full-sized
 containers of **frosting**
 (chocolate, vanilla,
 Funfetti), and luncheon size birthday **napkins.**

We have enough bottles of oil and candles.
 Watch for sales, start collecting cakes, frosting
 and napkins. Bins are in the narthex.



Saturday, April 5th
 has been set as the date for
 our
 Spring Rummage Sale

You can start bringing items
 on March 30th
 Watch for announcement about how
 YOU can help.

**Service Group -- meeting on Sunday
 March 9th after worship and fellowship.
 Everyone is welcome to attend.**

Remember to SPRING AHEAD on March 9th



CONGRATULATIONS

to our newest
 Confirmands
 Landon Knott
 Cameron Knott
 Sam Young
 Halle Hofstad

Readings for MARCH

MARCH 2: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-43a
 MARCH 9: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
 MARCH 16: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35
 MARCH 23: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9
 MARCH 30: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32





New Salem Council Minutes February 18, 2025

Present: Pastor Terry, Eric Medberry, Sue Rosselet, Sonya Kraft, Nora Illies, Rick Bogart, Graig Gilbertson, Bob Wagner **Absent:** Calli Ferdig, Fred Sanford
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Rick.

Congregational Officers: President: Rick Bogart, V. P. : Fred Sanford, Secretary: Eric Medberry, Treasurer: Sue Rosselet

Devotion - Bob - next month will be Pastor Terry

Approval of the February 18th, 2025 Meeting Agenda: Nora moved to approve the agenda; Graig seconded. Carried.

Approval of the January 21st, 2024 Meeting Minutes: Nora moved to approve the previous minutes; Sonya seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Ash Wednesday service on March 5th, at 6:30
Lenten Midweek services, March 12, 19, 26, and April 2, 9, at 6:30
Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, April 17th at 6:30
Good Friday, April 18th at 6:30
Easter Sunday, April 20th at 9:30
New church brochure
Working on the theme for Lent

Treasurer's Report: Sue Rosselet:

Expenses exceeded our income in January; Property Insurance amount should come in March; Balance carried forward: \$12,522.91; 10% designated to Synod/ELCA: \$1,252.29; Remaining Balance Forward: \$11,270.62; We should transfer \$2,000 of the remaining balance to our Capital Improvement Fund
Snow removal and heating continue to be monitored; Payroll increases started on the Jan 31st payroll and include back pay for Jan 15th; January benevolence for Churches United was \$780; February numbers are still being processed; Report was accepted and filed

Old Business:

Social Media position Position description handout created by Bob, Calli, and Nora; Council took a few minutes to review the position description; Bob moved to approve the position description; Graig seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bob moved to approve the salary for the Social Media person at \$200 a month: Graig seconded the motion. Nay on behalf of the treasurer because it is a new, paid position for which we have not budgeted. Motion carried.

Bob moved to approve the hiring of the Social Media person as a paid position to be offered to the congregation contingent on a letter of intent of being able to fulfill these responsibilities and expectations; Graig seconded the motion. Motion carried. Position open until March 5th, interview to follow if necessary

Offering counting Graig requested that we know who is going to count before the service, Graig would also like Fred's input on this; Rick noted that a sign-up sheet was passed around at the last meeting, as has been done frequently in the past, and no one signed up. Discussion ensued

New Business:

Election of Council Officers: Rick Bogart - President; Eric Medberry - Vice President; Calli Ferdig - Secretary ; Sue Rosselet - Treasurer Sue moved that accept the entire slate of officers; Sonya seconded. Motion carried.

Team Reports - we need to get members back involved in our team meetings

Youth and Education Upcoming meeting to work on spring Sunday School and decide on 2024 Noisy Offering
Start planning for our Summer Program with Pathways

Worship and Music Pastor proposes that Worship and Music picks the music for services each month instead of Traci selecting the music; Worship and Music will be responsible for selecting music going forward

Stewardship and Outreach Nora brought up the idea of gathering emails from visitors and sending a midweek email to those who attend our services and she is willing to spearhead this effort

Buildings and Grounds Nothing to report

Next Meeting:

PEOPLES CHURCH

FOOD, SHELTER, AND DIGNITY FOR ALL OUR RELATIVES



Bishop Bill visits for Sunday Feast and Worship. Pictured: Heidi Doyle (Board Secretary), Kathy T., Julia Plum (Executive Director and SAM), Bishop Bill, and Terrance F.

IN 2024...

It has been an amazing year at Peoples Church!

- We celebrated receiving use permits from the City of Bemidji and are now officially recognized as a shelter.
- For the first time in our history, we have staff on site for the full over night.
- We are partnering with Greater Minnesota Community Services to offer housing support resources including individual therapy appointments and housing case management.

These changes have been huge in the culture at Peoples as we are providing meals and shelter to more people than ever before.

COMING UP IN 2025!

The first week in February 2025, our big building project will be sent out for bids. We are hoping and praying for a spring project start date and expecting the project to last about 4-5 months.

This project will include remodeling our existing building, building an addition that extends into the current parking lot, a new and licensed kitchen, new and more toilets and showers, and permanent beds in the sleeping side of the building.

Keep your eyes out for opportunities to help with the project either by lending a helping hand or participating in any fundraising to meet unexpected costs!



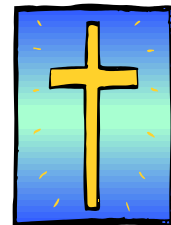
We'll be saying goodbye to this iconic back porch with the new building! Pictured: Lynn H., a friend of the church, and Matt K.

www.peopleschurch-elca.org

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40



*New Salem's
Highlighted Mission Partner
March 2025*



Mission

We strive to provide a sanctuary for prayerful worship within a respectful and welcoming environment and to meet the spiritual needs of our parishioners and community using Christian values while respecting the 'One God with Many Names.' After 25 years of seeing who shows up to worship with us, it is clear we are largely an indigenous church. We celebrate Cross and Feather and are very sensitive to justice issues for Native Peoples.

Peoples Church exists to help serve not only the spiritual needs but basic living needs of many who would go without. Shelter and food—that's where healing begins.

We are a multicultural and indigenous ministry of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). We live out our faith by showing Creator God's love for all people by offering shelter, hot meals, and community.

**Sunday Feast 12:00pm and
Worship 12:30pm**

**Overnight Shelter Every
night Meals Everyday**

Peoples Church offers overnight shelter year-round. We have a hot evening meal on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays served beginning at 6:30p and breakfast 7 days a week from 8-10a. Anyone in the community is welcome to share in our meals, you do not have to be a shelter guest to eat with us.

Sundays we have a feast with a hot meal at noon. 824 America Ave. NW



God's Work, Our Treasure—March 2025

This month New Salem is lifting up the work of a mission partner, the **Peoples Church**, and urges you to consider the various ways you might support this valuable ministry.

You can send your check to New Salem and indicate it is for the **Peoples Church**

And we will forward your gift to them. peopleschurch-elca.org



Have you heard - critical food assistance programs like SNAP and free school meals are at risk of devastating cuts through budget reconciliation. If these cuts go through, over 87,000 Minnesota students could lose access to free school meals, and families who rely on SNAP to put food on the table will face even greater hardship. Food shelves, like ours, are already seeing record-breaking demand, and any further restrictions on food assistance will push more families into crisis.



You can help! In addition to your financial donations, we're assembling Birthday Bags. This is a project in which we can all take part. This time last year we made 140 Birthday Bags and spent months distributing them to customers at the food shelf when they had a birthday. We want to beat that number! Bring cake mixes, frosting tubs, and birthday napkins to the tub on the table in the fellowship hall.

New Salem's volunteer shifts in February:

Monday, Mar. 10, from 9:00 – 12:15

Monday, Mar. 10, from 12:00 – 3:15

Friday, Mar. 14, from 9:00 – 12:15

Thank you to our new (and seasoned!) volunteers! We're so glad you've joined the fun! Contact me to become involved in this fulfilling ministry.

612.940.7312, ksnortland5@gmail.com.

A reminder that donations go in the basket next to the double doors in the narthex. **Please note** only one-dozen egg cartons are used at the food shelf (not 18-ct.)

Psalm 146:6-7: God upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

In His Service,
Karin Snortland
Council of Churches Representative



New Salem Land Acknowledgement

New Salem Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe, Assiniboine, & Dakota people[s], and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous sisters and brothers who have and continue to call this land their home.

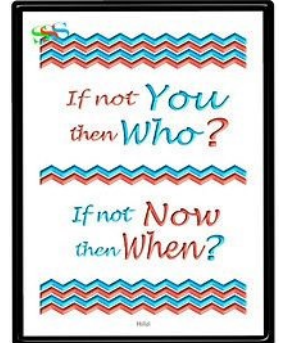


The Service Group Needs a President

The New Salem Service Group is once again in search of a President/leader. This volunteer position is open to all women and men – perhaps there's a couple in the congregation that would like to take on this project?

Note that there is a dedicated Treasure and a dedicated Secretary. Plus others have stepped into leadership roles for the main activities of this Group, such as the Rummage Sale, the Fall Bazaar, the Funeral Coordinator, and stocking the kitchen supplies, so the President has plenty of willing help. Also, the men and women of the congregation are terrific at volunteering to help on the various activities. The Group usually meets every other month on the second Monday.

For more information and a list of responsibilities, please contact interim leader Karyn Lutz at lutz@paulbunyan.net or 218-280-7488.



YOU are an Important Part of New Salem
Volunteer to assist with some part of worship!
Volunteers Enhance the Worship Experience

for Everyone!

Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex.
Instructions are available as needed.



Ash Wednesday



Since apostolic times, Lent was a time of preparation of candidates for baptism and a time of penance for grievous sinners who were excluded from receiving Holy Communion and were preparing for their restoration. The practice was not formalized until the First Council of Nicaea in 325 ce. As a sign of their penitence, they wore sackcloth and were sprinkled with ashes. This form of public penance began to die out in the 9th century. It became customary for all the faithful to be reminded of the need for penitence and of their own mortality by receiving a *memento mori* in the form of ashes, either sprinkled on top of worshippers' heads or marked in the shape of a cross on their foreheads, on the first day of Lent—hence the name Ash Wednesday.

Lent

Lent, in the Christian church, is a period of penitential preparation for Easter. In Western churches it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides a 40-day period for fasting and abstinence (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. Almsgiving, the practice of giving money or food to the poor and performing other acts of charity, is also encouraged. In the early centuries, fasting rules were strict, as they still are in Eastern churches. One meal a day was allowed in the evening, and meat, fish, eggs, and butter were forbidden. The Eastern church also restricts the use of wine, oil, and dairy products. In the West these fasting rules have gradually been relaxed. In addition, Catholics and other Christians often choose to give up specific pleasures, such as sweets, alcohol, or social media, during Lent as a way to foster simplicity and self-control; many use their cravings or desires for these items as a reminder to pray and to refocus on spiritual matters.



Holy Week

Easter is immediately preceded by Holy Week, which includes Maundy Thursday, the commemoration of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples; Good Friday, the day of his Crucifixion; and Holy Saturday, the transition between Crucifixion and Resurrection. Liturgically, Easter comes after the Great Vigil, which was originally observed sometime between sunset on Easter Saturday and sunrise on Easter Sunday.



When is Easter?

The earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration comes from the 2nd century, though the commemoration of Jesus' Resurrection probably occurred earlier. Fixing the date on which the Resurrection of Jesus was to be observed and celebrated triggered a major controversy in early Christianity. The Council of Nicaea in 325 decreed that Easter should be observed on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox (March 21). Easter, therefore, can fall on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25.

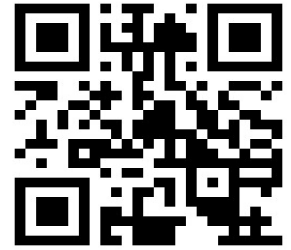
www.britannica.com/topic/Easter-holiday

Do you know that you can support the mission of New Salem electronically?

Yes, collection plates are still passed during service!

You can use your phone to scan this QR code.

It'll take you to a secure Vanco page where you can quickly and easily make your donation. This can be a regularly scheduled or a one time donation.



Or, if you're at your computer, you can simply click on (or copy & paste) this link: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z88A> (ctrl-click) to get to the same Vanco site.



General Fund

Support the general operations of our congregation.

Donate

The General Fund supports the everyday operations of our church. It pays salaries, the mortgage, the utilities, the routine costs of operation as we share the Good Word with our neighbors.

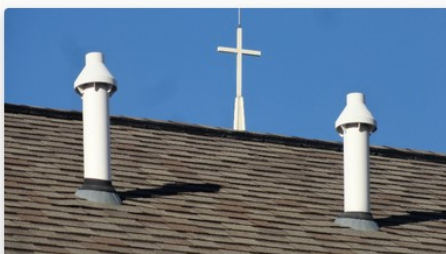


Mission Partners

Donation for Mission Partners. Help causes such as hunger, homelessness, and other needs in our community and society.

Donate

Each month, our Stewardship Team designates a Mission Partner to support with our "second mile" giving. These are organizations that help our neighbors within our community or help ELCA efforts like disaster relief.



Building Fund

Even a house of God sometimes needs repairs!

Donate

The Building Fund supports the repair and maintenance of our church building, which was completed in January of 2005. Just like our own homes, regular upkeep is essential.



New Salem Service Group

Women and men of New Salem united in their efforts to serve the needs of our church and our community.

Donate

This dedicated group sponsors events like an annual rummage sale and an annual craft sale. They also serve at funerals. Funds raised are dispersed back into the community.



to all of you who are currently using Vanco to make donations to the mission of New Salem. Your support is much appreciated.

Life is busy for all of us and giving electronically can help simplify that. Whether you join us in-person or online, **YOU are Welcome** and a part of our New Salem family. Vanco makes it safe and easy to support our mission.