

The SEER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2025



SUNDAY SERVICES

- March 2- Transfiguration
Rev. Guy Erwin
- March 9- Lent, ELW, setting 9
(Daylight Savings Time begins)
- March 16- Lent, ELW, setting 9
Breck Cogswell - sermon
- March 23- Lent, ELW, setting 9
Pr. Peter Olson
- March 30- Lent, ELW, setting 9

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS, 7PM

- March 5, 12, 19, 26
Preceded by 6pm Soup Supper

SUNDAY SCHOOL *Schedule*

- March 2- Education Presentation
with Rev. Guy Erwin
- March 9- Regular Classes
- March 16- Brunch and Q&A session
with Breck Cogswell
- March 23- Congregational Meeting
- March 30- Regular Classes

We're very excited about Breck Cogswell's visit on the weekend of March 14, 15, & 16. Breck is the pastor candidate the Call Committee recommended to the Council to invite to Salem for the congregation to meet.



We want everyone to have a chance to meet Breck and know more about her; the following events will help accomplish this:

Friday, March 14—dinner event with OSU campus students

Saturday, March 15—Come-and-Go Reception (For Everyone!) at Elaine & Bruce Ackerson's home (113 Randolph Ct, 74075), 4-6pm. Lights snacks and drinks provided. A good chance to visit with Breck in a casual setting.

Sunday, March 16—9:30am Service...Breck will preach. Brunch following service in parish hall. Opportunity to hear more about Breck (from Breck) and to ask questions or make comments.

Breck will meet with the Council, Mutual Ministry and Treasurer while she is in Stillwater.

Sunday, March 23—9:30 Service...Pr. Peter will preside. Congregational Meeting immediately following service. Votes to call Breck and approve compensation & Benefits package.

Colored index cards are available in the Parish Hall to write questions for Breck. Please just drop them in the box on the table and they will be sent to Breck in advance of the event.

A letter was sent via US mail on 2/16/25 to all Salem Lutheran Church members. The letter included some information about Breck's background and a letter of introduction written by Breck herself. Also included was a letter from the church council about the 3/23/25 call vote. If you did not receive a letter, please notify the Salem office so we can make sure your contact information is correct and up to date, and so we can get the letter to you ASAP.

Maria Moccia-Wolff

Notice

The Salem Lutheran Church Council has called a Special Congregational Meeting on March 23, 2025 following the Worship Service. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether Salem Lutheran Church will extend a Call to Breck Cogswell. Should we extend a Call, approval of Compensation Package will be voted upon.

Pam Talley, President

From Our Daily Bread

Donations we receive from our community add much needed variety on our shopping floor.

Below is the link to our Walmart Spark Good Registry and our Amazon Charity List where you can purchase items we need and have them shipped directly to Our Daily Bread. Also provided is a list of food items we most often need, and information about where and when to drop off food donations. Thank you for helping us keep our shelves stocked!

[Our Daily Bread - Household Section Needs | Walmart.com](#)
[Amazon Registry & Gifting](#)

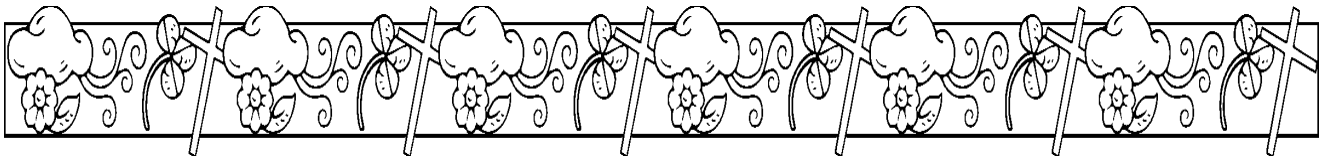
Ship items to: Our Daily Bread 701 E 12th Ave Stillwater, OK 74074



Service Ministry Notes

March 30 Fifth Sunday is for Tanzania Medical Mission,
Wednesday nite Lenten collection goes to Lutheran World Hunger.

Priscilla Gerfen.



Lenten Evening Prayer

Join us for delicious homemade soups and breads at 6pm followed by the half-hour Lenten Evening Prayer at 7pm. Priscilla Gerfen has planned this year's series of messages on the meaning of the Lord's Prayer.

CHOIR NOTES

through Holy Week

Wed, March 5 ~ 7:30pm (After 7pm Evening Prayer)

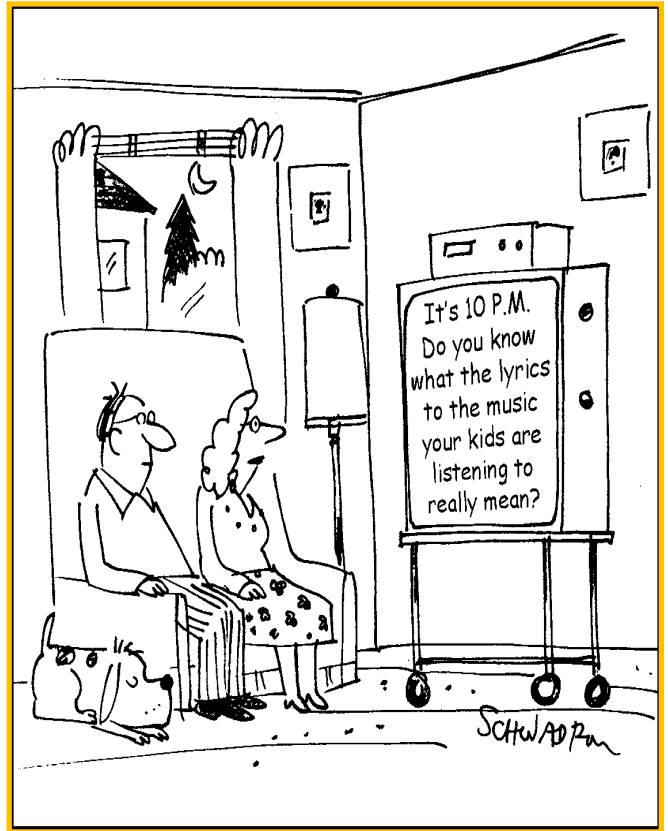
Wed, March 12 ~ 7:30pm

Wed, March 19 ~ No Practice (Spring Break)

Wed, March 26 ~ 7:30pm

Wed, April 2 & 9 ~ 7:30pm

Wed, April 16 ~ 7pm, Holy Week (No Wed. Service)



CURRENT & UPCOMING EVENTS:

We have lost both of our **childcare workers**. If you know of someone who would be interested, please have them contact Dorothy Johnson, Elaine Ackerson or Lindsey Bash.

Our new **Spring coffee hour list** has been posted by the kitchen pass-thru. There is a separate one on the bulletin board for the **Lenten Soup Suppers and Easter Breakfast**.

Just a reminder that **Sunday, March 9 will be the Spring-forward time change**.



March's SEER deadline for articles and Volunteer lists is Wednesday, March 26.



St Crispin's Summer camp for kindergarten thru high school seniors is now accepting reservations. Contact Lisa in the office for the link. (Discount available if you pay by April 1.)

We have a **new Visa**. If you were using the old number for regular purchases, please let Lisa know and we'll get the account updated. This doesn't affect the Walmart card. Thanks for your patience!

Our Ash Wednesday service is March 5th at 7pm.

If you would like one of the three **daily reading lists to take you thru Lent**, you can pick one from the library table. The **Psalm Scavenger Hunt/Activity** sheet is for families, **Journey to the Cross** is for older youth, families and/or Adults, **The Bible Reading Plan** is for anyone 16 and up and finally there is a **Holy Week Reading and Activity Page**. Please help yourself.



From Your President

It is hard to believe that it is March already. Also, hard to believe that we have been without a pastor for over two years. Things are looking up in that area. March is going to be a very busy month for the Salem family. There are very important events happening that will need the attention of each one of us. We start off the month (March 2nd) with a visiting pastor. The Rev. Dr. Guy Erwin, President of United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia leading our worship/communion and our adult discussion hour.

Ash Wednesday (March 5th) begins a most hallowed time of our church year. Priscilla Gerfen will be offering her gracious words for our Mid-week Lenten Services. Proceeded by Salem's legendary soup suppers. (March 12-April 9).

The highlight of the month will be a congregational visit by pastoral candidate, Breck Cogswell (March 14-16). There will be opportunities for the congregation to interact with Breck on Saturday. We will be receiving additional information from the call committee on exact details in the next couple of weeks. Breck will be preaching at our service on the 16th. We will have a potluck on that Sunday after services and another opportunity for the congregation to get to know Breck.

The following Sunday (March 23rd) is the date that is the most important to our congregation in this call process. The church council has called a special congregational meeting to vote on extending a call to Breck Cogswell. If a call is offered to Breck, we will also be voting on the compensation package. I would encourage everyone to attend this meeting if possible. Per the terms of our constitution, members must be present at the meeting to vote.

C10.05 Voting by proxy or absentee ballot shall not be permitted.

Fast forward to April. **SAVE THE DATE:** April 26, 2025. There will be a church-wide retreat on that date at St. Francis of the Woods. Rev. Peter Olson will be our leader. We would urge everyone to attend if possible. Fun, discussion, and planning. More details to follow. Hope to see everyone on April 26th.

Blessings, Pam Talley



Ending Hunger – Offering of Letters

While it sounds like everything in Washington is in chaos, our advocates at Bread for the World assure us that legislation continues to be drafted, committees meet, and congressional members are aware of input from constituents. Our Offerings of Letters in support of ending hunger are more important than ever amid the current distractions. They provide our Senators and Representatives with the support needed to continue forging bipartisan alliances on tax credits that move families above the poverty line, as well as programs to alleviate campus hunger and address the nutritional needs of mothers and their babies.

Salem's 2025 Offering of Letters will be held in between service and Sunday school on Sunday, April 6th. Information will be shared about how Bread for the World advocacy and the Offering of Letters are used by members of Congress to forge alliances and engage cosponsors for legislation. We will share what we know about congressional efforts to end hunger in America. We will provide you an opportunity to support your representatives. We will discuss ways to increase email effectiveness.

So PLEASE join us, and make sure you sign in so we can capture info on how you are communicating with your Senators and Congressman. See Tricia Auberle or email her at 35MRanch@gmail.com if you cannot be there on the 6th but plan to contact members of Congress.

Tricia Auberle





Evangelical Lutheran
Church (ELCA)
101 S. Duck St.
Stillwater OK 74074

MINISTRY STAFF

Director of Music ~ Krystal Hennessey
Choir Director ~ Elizabeth Albright
Music Director- ~ Krystal Hennessey
Office Coordinator ~ Lisa Murray-Francis
Parish Nurse ~ Cindy Pennie
Media Specialist ~ Olie Weaver

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:30 - 1pm
Friday 8:30-11am

Telephone numbers:

405-372-3074, 372-0879

(please leave a message!)

Email Address: salemelc@sbcglobal.net



Spring is just around the corner and Salem's grounds and building need some helping hands to prepare our church home for the Easter season.

The first opportunity is Saturday March 8 from 9 am to noon. Many hands are needed to prepare our butterfly garden for butterflies who will arrive in April. The dead stalks from last years plants must be carefully removed and taken to the recycling center. Then the entire garden will then be gently covered in mulch. The rest of the landscaping will be trimmed

and debris removed. Inside the building new door handles and signs will be installed on the north bathrooms, a place to hang name tags will be made and other projects as time allows. Bring your choice of gardening tools (label with your name) and gloves. Trucks to haul away the old stalks and branches will be needed.

The second opportunity is April 5 from 9am to noon. This is the time we will refresh the inside of the church. From dusting pews to decluttering cabinets. There are many projects that need attention. Please let us know if there are places you think need a little extra care. We look forward to seeing you. It takes everyone to care for our church home.

Annette and Rick Cowell Building and Grounds Committee