

# The SEER

## SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2025



**Our Sunday service  
is at Salem at 9:30am.**

Watch live on Facebook -  
Salem Lutheran Church  
or  
anytime on YouTube-  
Salem ELC Stillwater OK

**Sunday Morning's Adult Classes- 11am**



The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) provides a transformative, year-long journey in intentional service. The young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine country programs around the world.

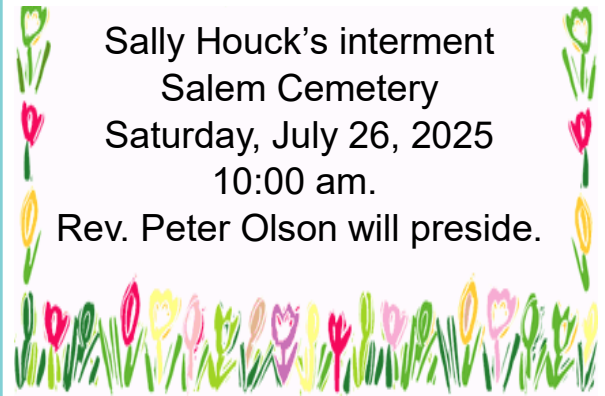
Like Chelsey Johnson and Kelsey Haseley before him, our own Jared Smith has been accepted into the program. He has been asked to raise \$8000 to cover the costs of the year-long assignment in Hungary. If you can help with this, please memo your check YAGM/Jared.



**Breck Cogswell  
Amelia Neumeyer  
Olie Weaver**

If you know of any other Salem grad's please let us know!

**Congratulation Graduates!**



**Sally Houck's interment  
Salem Cemetery  
Saturday, July 26, 2025  
10:00 am.**

**Rev. Peter Olson will preside.**



## AR-OK Synod

The Synod Assembly is the weekend of **May 2nd thru 4th**. Salem's Voting Members include Pam Talley, and Rick Cowell. Cindy Pennie also attends for the Mission Team.

We appreciate their willingness to serve the wider church, and look forward to hearing about the assembly from them.

Stephen Haseley will lead the service Sunday, 4/4. Kevin Gerfen will read the Synod provided sermon. Thank you!

## Council Report

The Church Council meeting was held on April 8, 2025. Several matters were discussed and resolved.

Breck Cogswell's ordination and installation service will be held on Sunday, June 8th. Our Semi-Annual Congregational meeting is postponed to June 22, 2025. The Congregational Retreat, scheduled for April 26, has been postponed until the fall (possibly September.) This decision was made in order to include Breck Cogswell in the retreat after she is installed as a pastor.

Nominations and elections for the Council will be held at the June Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting.

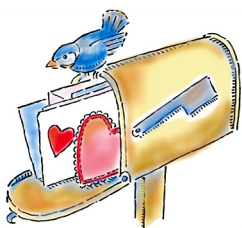
The Worship and Music Committee is very pleased with the new piano. The Building and Grounds committee reported that an indoor cleaning/refresh day was conducted on April 6th. The dead tree was removed from the cemetery without damage. Chad Sneed Lawns will be the contractor taking care of lawn maintenance at both the cemetery and main church property this year.

A plaque, honoring Karl Oltmanns, will be installed near the bench overlooking the basketball court. A bench will be installed under the awning in the playground in loving memory of Loudon Patterson. The Patterson family has requested that any remaining funds from the memorial account go toward the Little Pantry.

Jared Smith's assignment for the Young Adults in Global Mission program will be in Hungary. He will know a specific placement in July. He will be asked to fundraise \$8000.00 toward the cost of his participation. It is a great opportunity for him to grow and gain invaluable experience in the Global Mission.

May the risen Christ constantly fill all our hearts with joy and lift our spirit with hope in doing His service.

Catherine Vijayakumar



**We are looking forward to the arrival of our new pastor, Breck Cogswell, in early June. Let's begin our fabulous "Salem Stillwater" welcome to her right away with cards or notes mailed to Breck Cogswell, 1829 Denver Dr., 2B, Dubuque, IA 52003.**

In order to include our new Pastor in our Semi-Annual Meeting, it has been moved back to Sunday, June 22. Articles for our **Annual Report** should be turned in by Thursday, June 5.

# THANK YOU!

## volunteers



<b>2025</b>	<b>Sunday, May 4 3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Sunday, May 11 4th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Sunday, May 18 5th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Sunday, May 25 6th Sunday of Easter</b>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER 9:30</b>	<b>Keith Schmidt</b>	<b>Rick Cowell</b>	<b>Priscilla Gerfen</b>	<b>Cindy Pennie</b>
<b>ALTAR GUILD 9:30</b>	<b>Joanna Gipson</b>	<b>Dorothy Johnson</b>	<b>Maria Moccia- Wolff</b>	<b>Shelley Schmidt</b>
<b>USHERS 9:30</b>	<b>Dorothy Johnson &amp; Catherine Vijayakumar</b>	<b>Roger &amp; Teri Sahs</b>	<b>Jan &amp; Ken Bartels</b>	<b>Pat Darlington &amp; Tracy Nordquist</b>
<b>GREETERS 9:30</b>	<b>Elaine Ackerson</b>	<b>Sharon Schonthaler</b>	<b>Priscilla Gerfen</b>	<b>Pat Roark</b>
<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>Cindy Haseley &amp; Keith Schmidt</b>	<b>Maria Moccia- Wolff &amp; Terry Gipson</b>	<b>Lori Oltmanns &amp; Paula Long</b>	<b>Priscilla Gerfen &amp; Michelle Ratzlaff</b>
<b>FLOWERS</b>	*****	<b>The Gerfens</b>	*****	<b>Tricia Auberle</b>
<b>COFFEE HOUR 10:30</b>	<b>Bash Family</b>	<b>Sahs Family</b>	<b>Dorothy Johnson</b>	<b>Pragna &amp; Naserian</b>



### Anniversaries!

15	Jason & Lindsay Bash
16	Lori & Kevin Oltmanns
23	Tricia & David Auberle
24	Chris & Kay Headrick
28	Mike & Lucy Kershaw

### Birthdays!

5	Jeanette Johnson	If your birthday
8	Katie Kershaw	or anniversary
9	Emily Headrick	is missing, or
12	Barbara Bliss	incorrect,
15	Mike Kershaw	PLEASE let Lisa
	Evan Reitan	in the Church
23	Dorothy Johnson	office know-
29	Susan Prater	
30	Larry Redburn	372-3074.

### Lutheran School of Theology

Lutheran School of Theology's Giving Day is this week! Together, we'll ensure that future ministry leaders are prepared to meet the challenges of a complex world with faith, courage, and creativity.

Now, for the first time ever, every gift will be matched 2-1 by longtime supporters Larry and Christie Tietjen. **That means \$50 becomes \$150, \$100 becomes \$300 and so on – up to \$100,000 in matching funds.** Every dollar raised will directly support-

- Scholarships that make theological education possible for all.
- Programs that prepare leaders for ministry in diverse contexts.

Resources that strengthen the LSTC experience for all who walk through our doors. **Mark your calendar for May 6,** and be part of this incredible movement of generosity and impact.

Blessings,  
Peter J. Iversen, MPA, CFRE  
Philanthropic Engagement Officer  
[Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago](#), 5416 S Cornell Ave 4th floor,  
Chicago, IL 60615

### Hard to believe it is May already.

Just some information about upcoming events. Pastor Josh Johnson's last Sunday with us before our new pastor begins will be May 18th. To honor and thank Pastor Josh, we will be having a Bundt cake reception during coffee hour. If you are willing to provide a Bundt cake, please contact Priscilla Gerfen or Pam Talley.

We also will be preparing for the Ordination and Installation of Breck Cogswell on June 8th at 6:00 p.m. Our responsibility is to be the gracious host, which we do very well. Breck is putting the service together and working with Elizabeth and Krystal on the music. We will need the services of the altar guild and ushers.

Our main responsibility will be the reception following the service. We will begin planning for the reception in the next few weeks. If you are interested in helping with this process, please let me know.

Exciting things are happening. We will have a pastor soon!

Blessings  
Pam Talley



## Coming up!





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

### MINISTRY STAFF

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

### CHURCH OFFICE

**Hours:** Monday -Thursday 8-1pm,  
Friday 8-11am

**Telephone number:** 405-372-3074  
(please leave a message)

**Email Address:** [salemelc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salemelc@sbcglobal.net)

**Church Website:** [salemstillwaterok.org](http://salemstillwaterok.org)

**Special Olympics** is looking for volunteers for May 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested, a list of activities/sports is available at [www.sook.org](http://www.sook.org) or contact Maddy Alaluf [maddy@sook.org](mailto:maddy@sook.org).

#### Wednesday, May 14:

Golf assistance 8:30-3pm. Help at each hole on the course and/or help with giving out awards.

Bocce 8:30-3 (big need) Volunteers will help score, judge, and be court officials.

Tennis 12:30-3pm (inside): Volunteers will be scorekeepers and referees.

Turbo Javelin 11:30-5pm (big need): Volunteers will measure the distance of throws, bringing the javelin back, assist with divisioning of athletes, etc.

#### Thursday, May 15:

Young Athletes 7:30-12 (big need): Assist with check-in to the event, running activity stations, and could be asked to rotate with Young Athlete participants from station to station.

Tennis 8:30-Noon, 12- 3pm: Volunteers will be scorekeepers and referees.

Motor Activities 12-3pm : Volunteers will run stations and keep scores.

Dance 6:30-9:30pm: Volunteer will assist with dance check in, water jugs and cups, safety watch, dance, and trash pick up.

#### Friday, May 16:

Basketball scorekeepers 8-2pm: Volunteers will run time/score clock and keep score for games.

Basketball refs 8-2pm : Volunteers will referee for games.

