

The SEER

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2025



Let us give thanks!



Nov 2 - All Saints, ELW, Setting 3
Daylight Savings Time ends

Nov 9 - Now the Feast

Nov 16 - Now the Feast
Third Sunday Food Offering

Nov 23 – Christ the King, ELW setting 1

Nov 30- First Sunday in Advent
Fifth Sunday Offering- Stillwater
Public Schools resource center

Our Sunday Morning Service is at 9:30am.
Our on-line service is on Facebook at
Salem Lutheran Church
or later on YouTube
Salem ELC Stillwater OK

We have coffee hour after the service.

The Adult Discussion classes begin at 11am
in the Library and All Purpose rooms by the
offices.

Child care is available from 9am until noon
Sundays.

New in the Library

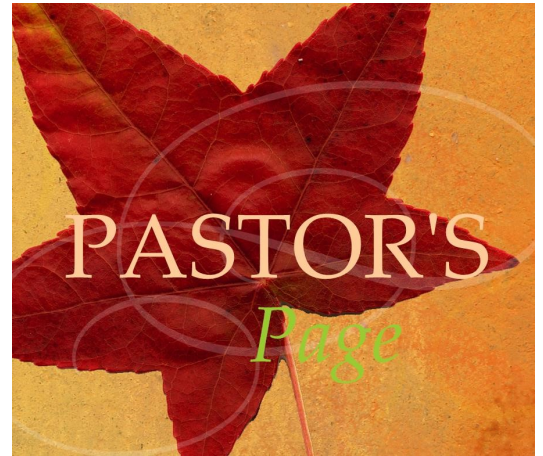
Dave Lewis recently donated four volumes on Martin Luther and the Reformation to Salem's library. The four were published around the 500th anniversary of the Reformation (2017). As you may know, Dave has led the Adult Forum for many years, and his curiosity and thoughtful questions have provoked intriguing discussions of religion and church history – especially the Reformation. Via these books Dave's scholarly interests will stay with us even after he and Judy relocate. **Thank you, Dave!**

Dowley, Jim. Atlas of the European Reformation Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015. 158pp.
Kittelson, James M., & Wiersma, Hans H. Luther the Reformer: The Story of the Man and His Career 2nd Ed. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2016. 290 pp.
Peters, Ted. 2015. Sin Boldly! Justifying Faith for Fragile and Broken Souls Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015. 479 pp.
Witte, John Jr. & Wheeler, Amy, Eds. The Protestant Reformation of the Church and the World Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. 278 pp.

Salem's library is for all of our use. Its origins date back to the early days of Salem's Campus Ministry in this building. The collection is a mix of church History, scholarship, Christian social justice, Bibles, and hymnals from various decades and denominations. Check out is on the honor system. All are welcome to browse the shelves and borrow materials.

Joanna Gipson

Since last I shared a SEER article, here are some remarkable things that God has been up to among this congregation's ministries:



- God's Work Our Hands Sunday was a productive blast. Our Daily Bread really needed our hands, and our garden beds really benefitted from the time spent on our Salem campus as well!
- Our congregational retreat brought together around 30 people to reflect and discern together, and the fruits of that labor are nourishing us now.
- Many, many animals were blessed around the Feast of St. Francis, and home visits happened because of those animal blessings that might not have happened otherwise!
- We blessed many quilts and school kits lovingly crafted by our SEW-ers and service committee, and now these gifts are sent off through Lutheran World Relief to find their homes with the people who need these resources.
- We re-thought how nursery volunteers might work, and the new system seems to be working beautifully for our littles. (The joy from those spending time with those littles is also palpable.)
- Jared continues to learn and thrive during his YAGM year in Hungary.
- We took part in a yearly stewardship campaign called "Tell Out My Soul", and welcomed our stewardship team to share their stories during a series of temple talks. And wow, did they knock it out of the park!
- We learned that our Episcopal neighbors from St. Andrews will be worshipping with us for a portion of next year as guests while their property is redeveloped. What an opportunity for connection!
- The high school Gender and Sexuality Alliance celebrated a super-fun Halloween party, co-hosted by some of our Salem folks. It sounded like a blast and such a wonderful way to connect to our community.
- We celebrated a beautiful Reformation Sunday with word, song, and even an Oktoberfest-style lunch!

...and all of that is happening beyond the more consistent rhythms of ministry here: weekly worship, the gathering and work of our many committees and ministries, our enriching adult education classes, weekly gatherings in-person and on zoom that create community, visitation in homes and around town, and so much more.

I hope this list lifts your heart as it does mine. I also hope that we know the goodness of what God is up to is always much, much more than a list. God is **doing** amazing work among us, and God is inviting us into a deep sense of **being** as well. May we find both.

A blessing as we enter the month of November:

May God who thought up crunchy leaves and golden sunrises,
Christ who experienced warm crackling fires and sparkling, twinkling stars,
And the Spirit who moves within you and around you like a crisp, surprising breeze,
Enliven and fill your heart this day and always.

Peace,
Pastor Breck



Birthdays

- 1 Priscilla Gerfen
Trey Ratzlaff
- 2 Maegen Schmidt
Jim Long
- 7 Jesslyn Lovell
- 11 David Auberle
- 12 Ken Bartels
- 21 Roger Sahs
- 26 Belinda Hammergren
- 28 Morgan Scott
- 29 Maria Wolff

*Have a
blessed
year!*

Anniversaries

- 30 Ruth Ann & Darald Haedt



On Sunday, November 16, we will host a special coffee hour reception honoring beloved Salem members Dave and Judy Lewis as they approach their moving date and head to Kansas. You're invited to stay after the service for a Farewell and Godspeed, time to chat, share memories, and send them off well, as we enjoy some lovely refreshments together!



Nov 5, 12 & 19 9-11:30am Quilts and coffee
Nov 26 No Sew-ers, Thanksgiving Week

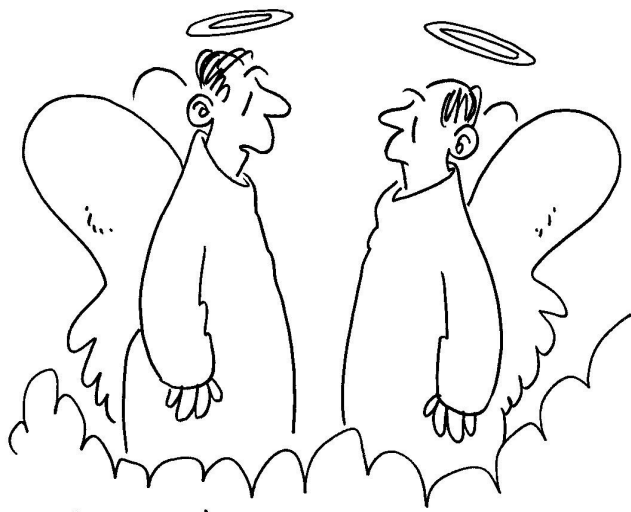
Dec 3 9-11:30, Set up for Quilt Sale
Dec 6 8-noon, Quilt - Bake - Craft Sale
Dec 10 Clean up for year

Dec 17, 24 & 31 holiday break
Jan 6 Sew-ers resume

Everyone is welcome to join in for special projects, quilting, coffee & conversation!
(You don't have to be able to sew!)



Our Daily Bread is asking for turkey and hams for Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you would like to donate, please drop your donation mornings Monday-Thursday from 9am until noon or go to the Turkey Trot drive thru drop off Saturday, Nov. 15 from Noon to 1pm. They are located at 701 E 12th Ave, out by the tennis courts and city pool.

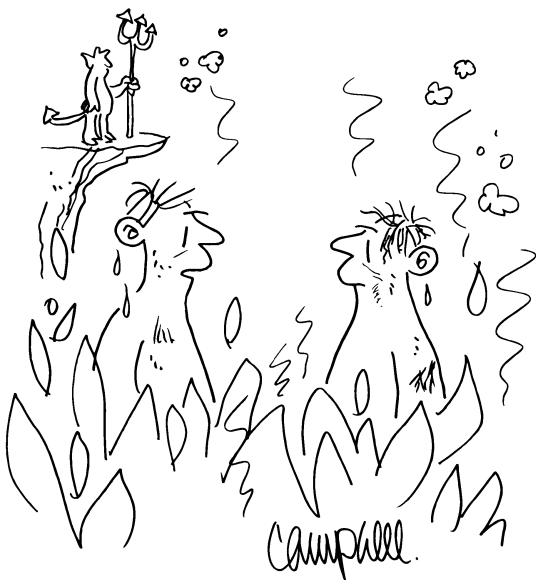


Campbell.

"The last thing I remember is Thanksgiving dinner. I asked for wings."



"Can you say 'try the patience of a saint' in a public school?"



"Who knew St. Peter had fact checkers?"

Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

WORD LIST: covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

M	I	C	W	L	O	O	F	Y	C	C	M	N	C	T
D	S	K	A	C	X	J	X	H	M	K	I	P	P	N
E	N	I	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	A	Y	R	E	A
E	J	H	K	T	O	T	R	N	T	W	O	Y	K	S
D	E	L	I	G	H	T	E	N	O	T	U	R	A	A
E	U	G	N	O	T	G	U	A	E	S	T	C	S	E
H	T	A	P	N	Y	O	N	C	C	D	H	O	R	L
A	U	J	L	X	F	Z	T	E	C	H	Y	V	O	P
E	Q	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	R	T	I	E	F	W
T	H	G	I	S	N	I	F	L	R	T	L	N	J	I
H	O	N	E	S	T	A	O	E	I	B	S	A	G	S
E	V	I	L	I	T	R	V	I	M	S	R	N	T	D
V	M	X	U	H	D	O	A	U	M	I	T	T	A	O
O	E	R	E	Y	P	Y	H	E	K	U	B	E	R	M
L	F	R	K	S	L	E	E	P	H	C	N	P	N	R

Thoughts about Thankfulness

"If the only prayer you said in your entire life was 'thank you,' that would suffice." —Meister Eckhardt

"O Lord, that lends me life, Lend me a heart replete with thankfulness!" —William Shakespeare

"¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 136:1



**101 S Duck St
Stillwater OK 74074**

MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor ~ Breck Cogswell

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 thru Thursday 8am-1pm

Friday- 8 - 11am

Telephone numbers: 405-372-3074,
372-0879 (please leave a message!)

Email Address: salemelc@sbcglobal.net

Church Website: salemstillwaterok.org

Salem's Famous Apple Pie (for the Bake Sale)

Oil Pie Crust for 2 Pies (makes 4 individual 9 inch crusts)

3 1/2 c. flour	1 c. Oil
1 tsp. salt	6 T. water



Apple Pie filling for 1 pie

1 c. sugar	3 T. flour	5 to 6 c. peeled, cored & sliced apples
1 tsp. cinnamon	5 pats butter or margarine	

Crusts: Mix flour and salt; stir in oil and water, forming a ball. Divide into 4 parts and roll out between 2 pieces of waxed paper. Makes top and bottom crust for 2, 9-inch pies.

Filling: In large bowl, mix together sugar, cinnamon and flour. Toss prepared apples in dry mixture to coat. Place in crust-lined pie pan. Add 5 pats of butter. Cover with top crust and finish edges. Freeze for the Bake Sale.

Aluminum pie pans, 2 gallon bags and boxes are available in the Church's kitchen.

Recipe taken from Salem's Favorite Recipes Volume 3.