

# The SEER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2026



**Our Sunday Morning Service  
is at 9:30am.**

Watch on-line service on Facebook at  
[Salem Lutheran Church](#)  
or anytime on YouTube  
[Salem ELC Stillwater OK](#)

Coffee time after the service.

Adult Discussion is at 11am in the All Purpose  
room by the offices.

Adult Sunday School meets at the same time  
in the Library.

Everyone is welcome!

*It is so nice to be  
appreciated!  
Thank you for the  
generous  
Christmas gifts.*

*God bless you all!*

*Pr. Breck, Krystal,  
Elizabeth, Lisa, Cindy  
and Olie*

*Thank  
You!*



Our next Games nite will be Friday,  
January 16 at 6pm. Bring your  
favorite game and snacks to share!

## The Episcopalians are Coming!

It's very exciting to see some new faces and find new activities going on here at Salem. Some of the membership from St. Andrew are joining us for the next six months

Pr. Breck's sent out a Welcome Packet to the Episcopalians as well as all of us. If you didn't receive it and would like one, please let Karen, in the office know and she'll resend it.

They will be here beginning Sunday, January 11 and will continue on until repairs and updates to their buildings are finished. They bring children's Sunday School with them. If you have a child that you would like to have included, please go to the upstairs classroom to talk to the teachers.

Thank you all for showing them the ropes as well as being welcoming. It should be a wonderful experience for everyone!

Dear all,

The Adult Discussion class will **not** meet until Sunday (Jan 25), when we will begin a new Great Courses course entitled "The Apocalypse: Controversies and Meaning in Western History" by Professor Craig R. Koester. Jan 25 seems to be the logical choice to start the new course because many participants will be absent on Jan 4, we will have a Tanzania report/presentation on Jan 11, and Joanna and I will be travelling on Jan 18.



An overview of the new course states:

"Christians and non-Christians alike have been debating the message of the book of Revelation ever since it was first written. What are we to make of it? These 24 thought-provoking and enlightening lectures are your authoritative guide to this extraordinary work. In them, you'll explore the historical and intellectual background of the Apocalypse; enjoy a close reading of John's text, focusing on the meaning of its images; and consider the wide-ranging impact of the book on Christian and Western history."

The zoom address is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88638990555?pwd=PqVqKEKlaRPnyCo;86aoffqb1cqWol.1>

The meeting passcode is 939204. If you have trouble signing onto Zoom, please contact me (Terry Gipson).

As Dave always said "Join us for a thoughtful discussion."

Terry Gipson

# JANUARY

*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

## *Birthdays*

8	Lori Oltmanns
	Pam Lovell
14	Terry Gipson
17	Darald Haedt
23	Elizabeth Albright
26	Jacob Ebersole
27	Tyler Bartholome
28	Anita Friedemann
	Nathaniel Sahs
	Tracy Nordquist

## *Anniversaries*

5 Joshua & Amie Haar

If we goofed and left you out, please let Karen know so we can update your information in the Church Directory.



## IDEAS FOR FOOD ITEMS TO DONATE

We ask that all donated items are unopened, in original packaging, stack-able, and within the expiration period. Our guest-choice shopping floor always needs variety in the following categories because of their popularity with our guests. Thank you for partnering with us!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cereals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Granola Bars</li> <li>◦ Cereal</li> <li>◦ Hot Cereal</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Canned Vegetables</b></li> <li>• <b>Canned/Dry Fruit</b></li> <li>• <b>Canned/Dry Beans</b></li> <li>• <b>Canned Protein</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Tuna</li> <li>◦ Chicken</li> <li>◦ Pasta w/meat</li> <li>◦ Nuts</li> <li>◦ Jerky</li> <li>◦ Trail Mix</li> <li>◦ Peanut Butter</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beverages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Juice</li> <li>◦ Coffee</li> <li>◦ Teas</li> <li>◦ (No Soda)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Soups</b></li> <li>• <b>Pasta/Rice</b></li> <li>• <b>Pantry Staples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Flour</li> <li>◦ Sugar</li> <li>◦ Condiments</li> <li>◦ Salad Dressing</li> <li>◦ Meal Kits</li> <li>◦ Sauces</li> <li>◦ Spices</li> <li>◦ Jellies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Baby Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ diapers</li> <li>◦ wipes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Chips &amp; Crackers</b></li> <li>• <b>Fresh Produce</b></li> <li>• <b>Household Items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Toilet Paper</li> <li>◦ Paper Towels</li> <li>◦ Laundry Detergent</li> <li>◦ Dish Soap</li> <li>◦ Household Cleaners</li> <li>◦ Body Wash</li> <li>◦ Shampoo</li> <li>◦ Toothpaste</li> <li>◦ Toothbrushes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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# JANUARY 2026

<i>Volunteers!</i>	<i>January 4 Epiphany Light of Christ</i>	<i>January 11 Baptism of our Lord Light of Christ</i>	<i>January 18 Epiphany Light of Christ</i>	<i>January 25 Epiphany Light of Christ</i>
<i>Assisting Minister 9:30</i>	Priscilla Gerfen	Marvin Shiever	Tricia Auberle	Joanna Gipson
<i>Ushers 9:30</i>	Ken & Jan Bartels	Roger & Teri Sahs	Pat Darlington & Tracy Nordquist	Catherine Vijayakumar & Dorothy Johnson
<i>Greeters 9:30</i>	Elaine and Bruce Ackerson	Annette and Rick Cowell	Priscilla and Kevin Gerfen	
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Dorothy Johnson	Mary Jo Shiever	Elaine Ackerson	Priscilla Gerfen
<i>Counters</i>	Paula Long and Michelle Ratzlaff	Lori Oltmanns and Keith Schmidt	Priscilla Gerfen and Maria Moccia- Wolff	Cindy Haseley and Terry Gipson
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Elaine and Bruce Ackerson	The G erfens	Naserian	
<i>Altar Flowers</i>		The Cowells		
<i>Campus Ministry Dinner</i>	Jan. 7 No Dinner	Jan. 14	Jan. 21	Jan. 28



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

## MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor- Rev. Breck Cogswell  
Director of Music ~ Krystal Hennessey  
Choir Director ~ Elizabeth Albright  
Office Coordinator ~ Karen Belden  
Parish Nurse ~ Cindy Pennie  
Media Specialist ~ Olie Weaver

## CHURCH OFFICE

**Hours:** Monday thru Friday 9am-noon

**Telephone numbers:**

405-372-3074, 372-0879

(please leave a message!)

**Email Address:** salemelc@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Peter Olson had ended his service as Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop. Pastor Peter's last day was December 31, 2025. We give thanks for Pastor Peter and his service in the Synod and wish him well. —  
The Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod

**Campus Ministry** will be starting up mid-January. If you can help provide a Thursday evening meal, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall

The 2026 **Flower Calendar** will be posted in the Prish Hall. Please sign up for any special dates, you'd like to commemorate or if you just enjoy the flowers. Please let Karen know if you would like to honor/memorialize someone in the weekly service booklet.

Our next **Third Sunday Food Offering** will be on Sunday, January 18.



Abraham in retirement

These final few weeks have been bittersweet. I'm looking forward to the freedom of retirement but as I do tasks that I'm doing for the last time, it makes me sad (or sometimes happy if it's not a favorite. :)

Thank you to everyone who has come by to say goodbye. You all have been a blessing in my life. Hopefully, I'll see you around! *Lisa*