

**From your pastor...**

Hey everybody, Pastor Wilde here. I'm very excited to be writing my first pastor's page for the newsletter! I'm genuinely thrilled to be here and can't think of a place I'd rather serve.

One of the first things I noticed at Salem is that we do some things a little differently here in worship than I've experienced at other WELS churches. At first, they struck me as a bit strange or weird, but then, aren't a lot of the things we do in worship kind of weird if you only take them at face value without looking any deeper? I realized I know we do these things for good reasons, but I couldn't quickly come up with clear summaries of those reasons.

For the next few newsletters I'll look at the history and meaning of the different elements of worship. Let's try to take the weird out of worship and discover why we do what we do at church!

Let's start today with a very brief definition of the word "worship" itself. It's a modernized version of the Anglo-Saxon word *weorthscipe*, which simply means, "to demonstrate that there is worth to something or someone." When we worship God, we are showing him and others how much he is worth to us. Think of Revelation 5:12, "*Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing,*" or what I exclaim as pastor after announcing forgiveness in the Service of the Word and Sacrament: "The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise."

Since worship at its most simple is just showing how much God is worth to us, our most common act of worship as Christians is simply to live his will, to fear love and trust in him above all things, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Essentially, worship is the Christian life. *Public worship*, what we do at church, well, there's more to that. More on that next time!

God bless you as you worship him!

- Pastor Wilde

**Church Council News:  
Our financial report – as of September 2018**

	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>Budget Requirements</b>	<b>\$48,793.42</b>	<b>\$439,140.78</b>
<b>Offerings</b>	<b>\$35,110.00</b>	<b>\$384,237.38</b>
<b>Tuition/FEF/ Reg</b>	<b>\$ 3,893.03</b>	<b>\$ 27,683.20</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$ 1,857.22</b>	<b>\$ 2,958.99</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$40,860.25</b>	<b>\$414,879.57</b>
<b>Actual Expenses</b>	<b>\$54,300.22</b>	<b>\$417,893.90</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>-\$13,439.97</b>	<b>-\$ 22,288.66</b>

**Owed to Internal Line of Credit: \$37,000**

The new media center at school is close to opening. A motion was made, supported and passed to approve \$800.00 from the school refurbish fund to finish the carpeting.

The Pioneer campout was a success, 6 students attended.

A yearly “open forum” was approved to recap the past year and show the congregation our projections for the coming year. A date will be announced soon.



**Everyone is invited to our  
Thanksgiving Services**

**Wed, November 21 at 7pm  
Thur, November 22 at 10am**



**The Branches Band** was at Salem on October 4<sup>th</sup> for our Thursday night service.



**The Sisters Serving Christ Organization** installed Esther Matthies as vice-president and Marsha Norder as treasurer during their October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.



**We welcome A. J. Kunde** to Salem. He transferred to us from Grace Lutheran Church in Durand.

**Fall Festival was October 20<sup>th</sup> at Salem School**



**Dinner & a Movie  
Night on Sunday,  
October 21**



# Fall Bazaar

**Salem PTO Indoor Bazaar**  
**November 10**  
**9am-4pm**  
**Salem Lutheran School Gym**

Please join us for Salem Lutheran School's second annual indoor bazaar! Entry into the event is only \$1 for anyone over 12 years old (under 12 is free!).

A great way to get some Christmas shopping done! We will have booths with homemade crafts, vendors, and garage sale items.



## **Visitor's Day** **November 13th**

Everyone is invited to come to our school and see the day to day activities our teachers and children do.

You do not have to stay all day – just come for an hour or two.



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**Are you a member of Thrivent?** If so, does your policy qualify you for “Choice Dollars”? Certain

policies give members the option of donating “Choice Dollars” to non-profit organizations. Salem Church and School are both listed as places you can give your donations to. To date, \$787 choice dollars have been given to church and \$139 to school. Please consider this as another way of helping support our church and school. We are grateful for these extra funds!

Another benefit Thrivent offers its members is “Action Teams Projects”. Thrivent members can apply for up to \$250 to do an action project. The money can be used to purchase supplies needed. Examples are paint and brushes for a school room project; food for a dinner fundraiser for new hymnals; rakes and garbage bags for a yardwork day of helping the seniors in the church. The ideas are limitless.

Salem members have used Action Team money to help pay to package and ship pill bottles to Africa, to purchase material for the summer sewing project, to purchase supplies for a cookie fundraiser for school.

You can look on [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) for more information.