



**Salem Lutheran Church
Childcare and Preschool**

3 things will last forever
- faith, hope, *& love*-
& the greatest of these is
love.

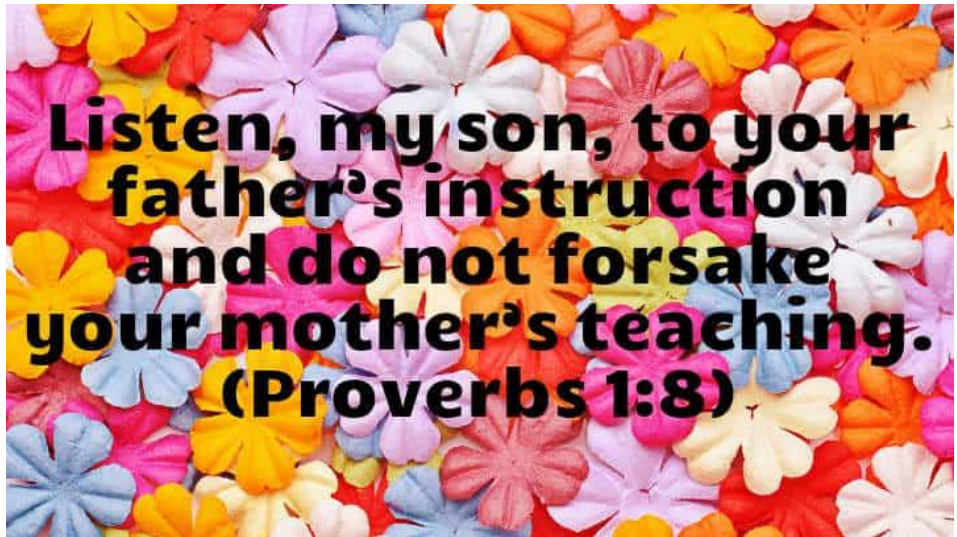
I CORINTHIANS 13:13

February 2022

Pastor's Page

Dear Saints of God,

Families are a blessing from God and as we are each a part of family, a question that keeps cropping up in my mind is how do we best care for the next generation, our children. The answer is to pass on to them the faith. Solomon does this in the book of Proverbs. His focus on raising his son in the faith begins right from the very beginning when he writes: "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching" (Prov. 1:8). Andrew Steinmann writes:



It is noteworthy that both parents are mentioned here and elsewhere in Proverbs as involved in the training of a child. Some understand the address as coming from a sage to a pupil, who is not a biological child. While a sage could address his student as "son", the continued reference throughout Proverbs to both mother and father as instructors and trainers of children—and their pride in children who do well, and their shame when their children go astray—indicates that this is instruction from actual parents. Also note that Solomon mentions learning the same lessons from his own parents. The responsibilities of parents to train children are, therefore taken seriously in Proverbs, especially in the opening chapters.¹

Solomon is writing this portion of the Proverbs to his son in the first person, "my son" repeatedly.² Solomon is doing what God teaches in Scripture that is, that parents are to raise their children in the faith.

As one reads through these first nine chapters of Proverbs, one will notice that it is instruction on living by God's Word. Steinmann writes: "This organization was part of the author's scheme to instruct his son in the wisdom of living by the guidance of God's Word, so that the son might receive the manifold blessings of wisdom and hence live—both in this life and for eternity."³ Solomon understood, at least at this point in his life, that God's Word was critical for his son to live in this life.

Solomon continues to share the importance of raising children in the faith. One of the most popular verses that backs up this clear thought that parents are to be involved in raising their children in the faith is Proverbs 22:6 which says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." The very first words that implies training actually means something along the lines as "starting a child along a certain course in life." Solomon brings baptismal imagery into the discussion. Discipleship making begins at baptism and it continues with teaching. After baptism, parents are to teach their children the way, the good way which is Christ alone.

This Proverb of Solomon also shows that this task is a lifelong process. This learning of the faith does

¹ Andrew Steinmann, *Proverbs*, Concordia Commentary (St. Louis: Concordia, 2009), 69–70.

² There are fifteen times that this is done.

³ Steinmann, *Proverbs*, 61.

not stop when one moves out of the house, but it continues throughout life, but what is important here is that “this proverb teaches that parents are to consecrate, discipline, and educate their children according to the Word of God in the way of wisdom, which is the way of faith and everlasting life.”⁴ This proverb is critical in pointing out that parents have a God-given command to teach their children.

It also shows the impact parents can have on their children when it asserts that “even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). In a paper to the 2014 Missouri District Professional Church Workers Conference, Mart Thompson stated: “The Lord offers a comforting word to faithful parents who are tempted to doubt whether their labors in raising their children in the way of the Lord will be successful.... The Lord promises that when parents are faithful to their task that the lessons learned in the home will bear fruit later if not sooner.”⁵ This is a great and comforting promise and does show the impact parents have on their children.

Yet, it is also true that there are children who grow up in homes where the faith is taught, leave the church, and even walk away from Christ. Steinmann holds this reality up clearly: “Does this proverb promise that every child who wanders away from faith in Christ will eventually return at some point later in life before he dies, and so be saved eternally? Many parents pray that it would be so, and God hears such prayers.”⁶ Any faithful parent would pray that their child would return. When a child leaves the faith, it is difficult for the Christian parent, but part of the parent’s task is to continue to pray for their child that the Holy Spirit would eventually lead them back.

My prayer for all of you is that you continue to teach your children and pray for them, even when they are out of the house.

As I mentioned in the January newsletter, I will also be providing a review of one of the resources that is very helpful for this task of teaching the faith at home. Later in the newsletter you will see a review of *Teaching the Faith at Home*.

See you in Church,

Pastor Michael Nielsen

Needs List:

Catechisms \$13/book

Study Bibles \$40/book

Certificate Frames \$4/frame

Air Conditioning

Lamp for organ \$250 - \$400

Faith Alive Bibles \$26/book

Additional Hymnals \$27/book

Baptism Frames \$4/frame

Convex Mirror \$50 - \$200

Music Stands \$50 - \$200

Church Computers - \$600 per computer

(replacing 1 every 2 years)

⁴ Steinmann, *Proverbs*, 442.

⁵ William Mart Thompson, “The Vocation of Raising Children in the Faith,” (paper presented at the Fall 2014 Missouri District Professional Church Workers Conference, Osage Beach, MO. November 11, 2014).

⁶ Steinmann, *Proverbs*, 442–43.

Council Meeting 01/11/2022

Present: Pastor Michael Nielsen, Vice President Josh Millerman, Head Elder Paul Millerman, Secretary Sarah Duncan, Treasurer MaryAnn Thompson, President John Steele, Board of Education Chris Severt.

Pastor led us in devotional and prayer.

Secretary Report: Secretary Sarah Duncan read the meeting minutes from the December 5, 2021 Annual Meeting. There are 2 amendments to be made to the minutes. Add Pastor's new salary of \$58806.00, health insurance \$4600, retirement \$5116.12, disability survivor \$1323.13, no HSA, plus an additional week of vacation time. Remove the statement in New Business about funding coming from state assistance. It should say student's parents. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept amended minutes and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Treasurer Report: MaryAnn Thompson advised the December 2021 financial summary as follows: General Fund Balance (4101) as of 12/01/2021 \$61770.71. December income \$14613.23. December expenses \$10488.02. Net income for December \$4125.21. Missions \$553. Building fund \$375. Gifts and Memorials \$1975.71. Sunday school offerings \$125.57. Daycare giving \$446. Air Conditioning \$50. Daycare income \$11277.00. General Fund Balance 12/31/2021 \$65895.92. Checking account at Sterling Bank \$46951.00. Savings account at Sterling Bank \$17317.92. LCEF \$26438.25. Daycare Checking \$9828.01. Discussed summary of Report Church. MaryAnn is going to send the following to council each month: Summary of Report Church, Profit/Loss budget actual, Daycare. The daycare received 2 grants worth \$800 and \$2525 in the months of November and December. This money should go toward supplies and employee training & retention. Johnson/Agen is going to set up a sub-account for the grant money. Scott Q will be able to create similar reports as Johnson/Agen so reports should be more understandable. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Paul Millerman and motion carried.

Elder's Report: Paul Millerman advised that Tom Lipke is going to start disinfecting tables in bathrooms. High school class is going well. Lock-in was a great success. Pastor and Jolene are talking about a young parent class. Pastor is seeing shut-ins. Pastor is doing a pre-marital class. Seder meal is being planned. Elders will be contacting members that have been absent for an extended period of time. Reminders are going to be sent to ushers. Updating membership records. Elders discussed chapter 4 of their book. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Tom Lipke and motion carried.

Trustee's Report: Tom Lipke advised that there have been furnace issues. Solutions came to work on it and made some adjustments. They also looked at the parsonage and made some adjustments there. They suggested a new furnace in the near future. Tom will get quotes and put it on a yearly maintenance schedule. Parsonage hot water heater broke down and Josh Millerman installed a new one. Church carpets are getting cleaned in the Spring. Looking for volunteers to help with the shampooing. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Board of Ed: Chris Severt advised that a job offer has been made to Jasmine as a lead teacher in the daycare/preschool. Laura was interviewed and hired as a lead teacher. More staffing conversation. Mandi has applied for grants and details of that are in the treasurer's report. There is a struggling family in the daycare

that are behind on payments due to COVID so the church is going to do a free-will donation on the next 2 Sundays for them. BOE is meeting again on January 16. Mandi's review is on January 27th. We need to address daycare/preschool curriculum and teacher contracts. Sunday school is going well. Melissa did a great job on the Christmas program. Sunday School kids will be singing the last Sunday of January. Planning snow tubing. Planning board training. A motion was made by Paul Millerman to accept the report and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor advised that he will be presenting his Doctor of Ministry work via newsletter articles and in leadership meetings. He attended Winkel via Zoom. There is still a steering committee for a Lutheran school in our area. Men's bible study: Isaiah. Thursday bible study: Christianity. Sunday morning bible study: Ask, Seek, Knock which focuses on prayer. BACA is meeting February 1st. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Paul Millerman and motion carried.

Old Business:

Steering committee for Lutheran School: planning to open Fall of 2024. Pastor Paul wants to make sure there is enough money to support a quality staff. He is hoping that APEX estate planning could help congregation members support. Looking for ideas for fund raising. The school will be named: Christ Community Church.

New Business:

Ann Matheny will be at Salem February 13 to discuss choice dollars.

The daycare/preschool will be going to Barron chamber meetings. They are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at city hall.

A motion was made by Chris Severt and seconded by Paul Millerman to adjourn the meeting and motion carried.

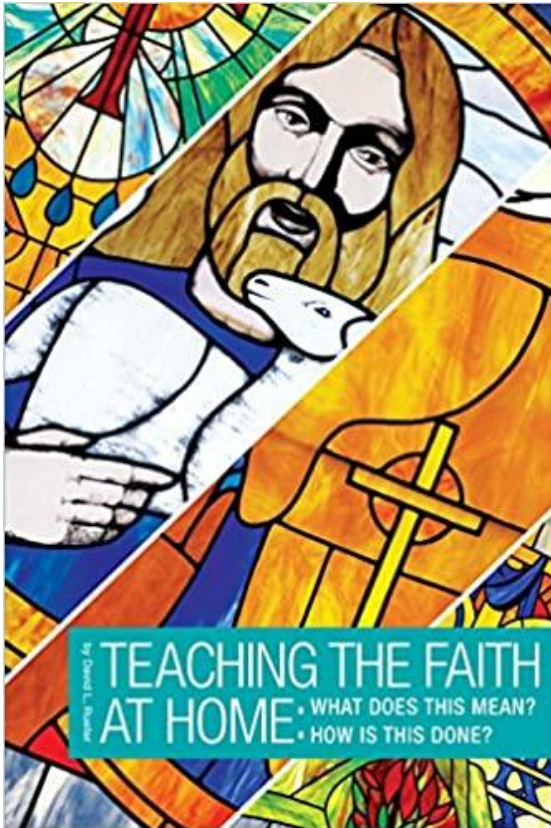
Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Minutes by Sarah Duncan

**Ann Matheny will be here on
February 13, 2022 after service to
help with Thrivent Choice
Contributions.**



**HOW TO DIRECT
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®**



Teaching the Faith At Home: What Does This Mean? How is This Done? is a book about confirmation and catechesis. It is more than that though, it is a book that helps in the discussion of discipleship in the home. It's even more than this, it is a tool that can help with the conversation of why faith formation at home and in the church is an important partnership. This book offers tools to church leaders in this conversation, but it also gives parents practical ways of using the catechism in the home with their children. This book is a great tool, and I recommend it to parents, church leaders, and educators in the faith as the discussion of faith formation and discipleship picks up steam. Dr. Reuter writes: "When the church and the home echo one another in how the faith is taught and lived, the impact grows exponentially (131)." This is critical to the development of faith in our young people.



SNOW TUBING



February 27th

5pm-7pm

Cost is: \$5.00 per person

Salem will provide Hot Dogs and Hot Chocolate. Please bring chips, soda, or a dessert to share.

Please sign up to let us know how many will be attending

Childcare/Preschool News!!



Oh what a beginning to 2022! We welcomed three new full-time staff members: Jasmine Thompson, Laura Zook, and Maria Livingston. It had been a great transition bringing these ladies on board. Truly such a blessing to our center.

For the month of February, here are the Bible stories we have planned for our Preschool by the week...

01/31-02/04: The Lord's Prayer
02/07-02/11: Jesus Calms the Storm
02/14-02/18: Jesus Feeds the Thousands
02/21-02/25: Jesus Walks on Water
02/28-03/04: Jesus Heals the Blind Man

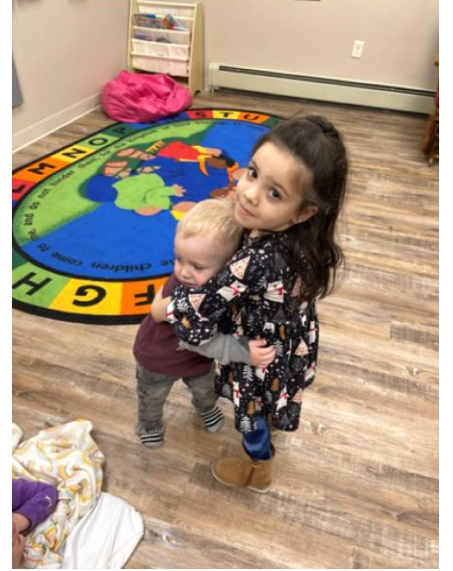
Special Dates:

02/02: Smiles in Motion is visiting for Dental Health Month
02/02: 100th Day of School
02/14: Valentines Day
02/23: Ms Mandi's Birthday
02/28-03/04 Dr Seuss Week

Dress Up Days:

02/28 "One Fish, Two Fish" Wear something red or blue
03/01 "Fox in Socks" Crazy sock day
03/02 "Wacky Wednesday" Wear your clothes mismatched, backwards or inside out
03/03 "Cat in the Hat" Wear your favorite hat
03/04 "Sleep Book" Wear your pajamas





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 2: Joshua Millerman

February 3: Joann Jaeger & Madelyn Weinert

February 5: Deloris Zabel

February 6: Sharon Hammann & Don Duncan

February 7: Leonard Splett

February 9: Kathryn Miller & Linda Mullikin

February 10: Tessa Church

February 11: Sue Weise & Chris Queiser

February 13: Paula Dennis

February 14: Diane Knoepke

February 18: Randy Forehand

February 19: Hannah Nielsen

February 20: Denise Stebenow

February 22: James Thalacker

February 24: Gwen Metcalf

February 25: Zackary Mickelson

February 28: Bonnie Brown

February 29: Cindy Mickelson & Melissa Weise





February Anniversaries

February 2: Dale and Becky Bryan

February 7: Randy and Sarah Forehand

February 14: Pastor and Emily Nielsen

February 15: Jeremy and Michele Millerman



February 1: William Weise

February 3: Brooke Hammann

February 8: Collin Duncan

February 9: Miriam Nielsen



**Photographers will be here
March 21 and 22.**



**CHRIST
COMMUNITY
LUTHERAN
SCHOOL**

P.O. BOX 120 ALMENA, WI 54805

February, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

CHRIST is not the last name of Jesus. It is His title, who He is for us. Peter confessed concerning Jesus “You are the Christ!” (Matt 16:16). The word Christ comes from Greek meaning anointed. Prophets, priests and kings were anointed. Jesus is the anointed one for us. The Old Testament promised the coming of THE CHRIST. The New Testament proclaims that Jesus is THE CHRIST who has come to save sinners.

COMMUNITY is a gift from God through His Word and Sacraments. The Greek word for community can also be translated as fellowship. This word most profoundly refers to the communion and fellowship that Christians have with Jesus. Because each Christian has fellowship (communion) with Jesus so Christians have community *with each other* as brothers and sisters in Jesus...THE CHRIST! (1 John 1:3) A community of Christians is something only Jesus...THE CHRIST creates and sustains through His Church by His Word, Spirit and Sacraments.

The CCLS School Board is forming and refining long term objectives. For a circuit supported school it is very important that a solid foundation is built before the school opens the doors. The school board meets regularly virtually and in person. We pray, and ask you to pray on our behalf, for Godly patience, wisdom and perseverance in this work. Our focus for 2022 is to spread the word about Christ Community and make lasting connections with those who desire to support this bold endeavor.

Christ Community needs patrons to become a permitted LASTING reality. Prayerfully consider becoming a Christ Community Patron. A Christ Community Patron is an individual or family that is committed to fiscally supporting the start-up and continued operation of CCLS.

These are some of our present goals:

- *Open in the Fall of 2024
- *Be accredited by the Consortium of Classical Lutheran Education and the National Lutheran School Accreditation
- *Provide a Kindergarten through 12th grade education
- *Select and hire an administrator who will begin work, in some capacity, in the summer of 2023.
- *Be centrally located in the circuit (The Almena area along Hwy 8)
- *Be open to all Christians from various denominations
- *Contract with Apex Legacy Consultants to work with dedicated Christ Community Patrons and guide congregations in establishing Education Funds & Endowments to support CCLS

Salem Messenger

- *Apply for a grant from the North Wisconsin District to assist with the cost of the Apex Legacy partnership
- *To have at least one CCLS School Board member attend the Consortium of Classical Lutheran Education Conference in Fort Wayne, IN – July 5-8th to network with teachers and administrators
- *To visit circuit congregations to encourage and help them prepare to fiscally support their member families and children who will be attending CCLS
- *To raise \$50,000 in 2022
- *To host an in person CCLS update in Almena this Spring
- *Establish a website

Joyfully in Jesus,

Ken Koch, Christ, Pipe Lake
 Jake Miels, Treasurer – St. Paul, Cumberland
 Rev. Preston Paul, Chair & Pastoral Advisor – St. Matthew, Almena
 Scott Petersen, Recording Secretary – Our Redeemer, Webster
 Brian Scheps, St. Matthew, Almena
 Shawn Schradle – Zion, Turtle Lake
 John Steele – Salem, Barron

Donations to help get CCLS up and running should be made out to Christ Community or CCLS and mailed to P.O. Box 120, Almena, WI 54805. *Please indicate your home congregation with your donation.*

**In the unfortunate (and unanticipated) event that CCLE fails to open by the fall of 2026 remaining funds will be distributed to circuit congregations according to the percentage of received donations for the use of Christian Education in the congregations.*



How to Contact Us

Pastor Michael Nielsen – (218) 280-0999

Pastor's Email – rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com

Office – (715) 537-3011

John Steele – (715) 769-3133

Preschool – (715) 537-3011 ext.14

Mary Ann Wheeler, Parish Musician – (715) 205-1158

Church Service Phone –1 (888) 505-1870

Church Email: salemmos@chibardun.net

Salem's New Web Page Is: <https://www.salembarron.com/>

Click on enter the following link and follow the prompts to support Salem.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-6137330>

February Ushers

Terry Kirkman

Mike Kuhrt

Roger Fagerlin

Mark Garrett



January Altar Guild: Mary Ann Thompson

January/February Work Groups

Rick and Kelly Cornelius	715-837-1698
Paul and Sue Millerman	715-234-4410
Sarah Bisonette	715-236-7868
Scott and Cathy Davis	715-637-5514
Mark and Jeannette Garrett	715-537-5838
Rita Herrman	715-637-3646
Joyce Kaseno	715-537-5955
Terry and Marlene Kirkman	715-637-3968
Mahlon and Barb Maas	715-537-5211
Jeremy and Michele Millerman	715-205-2615
John and Emily Steele	715-441-5169
Cindy Wright	715-357-3411

February Elders

6 – 9:00 Tim Dennis

13 – 9:00 Josh Millerman

20 – 9:00 Paul Millerman

27 – 9:00 Don Duncan



Coffee Schedule

6 – Chris & Amanda Queiser & Linda Riebe

13 – Paul & Sue Millerman

20 – Michelle Thompson & Jim & Lori Crawford

27 – Josh & Jen Millerman

February Greeters


6 – Mike and Deb Kuhrt

13 – Roger and Ann Fagerlin

20 – Mark and Jeanette Garrett

27 – Terry and Marlene Kirkman

February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Green		1 7 am Bible Class 7:00 pm Men's Club	2 4-5pm Confirmation 6:30 BOE Meeting	3 11 am Bible Class	4	5
6 Green 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 am SS/Bible Class 11:05 am BOE Meeting	7 7:00 pm Elders	8 7 am Bible Class 7:00pm Council	9 4-5pm Confirmation 5-6 pm YFM meeting	10 11 am Bible Class	11	12
13 Green 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 am SS/Bible Class Ann Matheny to assist with Thrivent Choice Contributions.	14	15 7 am Bible Class	16 4-5pm Confirmation 7pm Board Training	17 11 am Bible Class	18	19
20 Green 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 am SS/Bible Class	21	22 7 am Bible Class	23 4-5pm Confirmation 7pm : Empowering Parents	24 11 am Bible Class	25	26
27 White /Transfiguration 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 am SS/Bible Class 5-7 pm SNOW TUBING!!! 	28					