

# LENTEN SEASON CONTINUES—HE IS RISEN!

## LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 26: Soup supper at 5:30 p.m. (Meal Ministry), Worship at 7 p.m.

April 2 Soup supper at 5:30 p.m. (Youth), Worship at 7 p.m.

April 9: Soup supper at 5:30 p.m. (Sunday School), Worship at 7 p.m.

April 13: Palm Sunday Worship at 8 am & 10 am

April 17: Maundy Thursday Worship at 7 pm

April 18: Good Friday Worship at 7 pm

April 20: Easter Sunday Worship at 6:30 am, 8 am & 10 am

## New Member Class

is scheduled for Sunday, March 30, at 11 am.

Please see Pastor if you are planning to attend.

Official welcome will be Sunday, April 6.



## WOMEN OF SSLC

Will meet on Sunday, April 6, at 9 am in the library. Topics of discussion will be the annual It's a Girl Thing event, other service projects, and fall Craft Sale.



All are welcome!

## 2025 Flower Fundraisers will end on March 31



Nelson Nursery Gift Cards Online ordering at:

[estore.nelsonnursery.com/Store/Shop.aspx?fund=sslc-2025](https://estore.nelsonnursery.com/Store/Shop.aspx?fund=sslc-2025)

Gerten's Greenhouse plants:

All orders will be done ONLINE ONLY.

Here is the link to our online store: [gertensfundraising.com](https://gertensfundraising.com)

Store ID 385

Plants and Gift Cards will be delivered here May 5 .

## SAVE THE DATE FOR

"It's a Girl Thing"  
Saturday, May 3



## EASTER EGG HUNT

FOR ALL SUNDAY SCHOOLAND BREAKFAST CLUB KIDS

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

AT 9 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME!



## EASTER EGG CANDY DONATIONS

We are looking for individually wrapped small size candy pieces to be put into Easter Eggs for the kids egg hunt. Please bring to the church office by April 6. Questions? See Karla Zerwas.

## CEMETERY CLEAN UP

Spring clean up day will be Monday, May 5 at 6 pm.

Rain date will be the following Monday, May 12.

Please collect all loose items that you wish to keep prior to this day.

You may return them after clean up day. Thanks!



# CHURCH NEWS

**SSLC's Bible Book Club** We will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Feel free to drop in as you are able. If you can't make it by 6:30 pm, still come, you can jump in when you arrive. We will gather in the library for fellowship, and to discuss various books in the Bible. We will start at the beginning, where the whole story began, Genesis. Bring your Bible, it does not matter which version you have, something to drink, and if you want to, bring your dinner too!

**Missing your print newsletter?**

Print copies are always available in the church entry. Help yourself!



**Altar Guild is currently accepting donations of wine to use for Communion serving.**

See Ann Kooiker or Sandy Empting for more information.



**HERE IS OUR NEW QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING:**

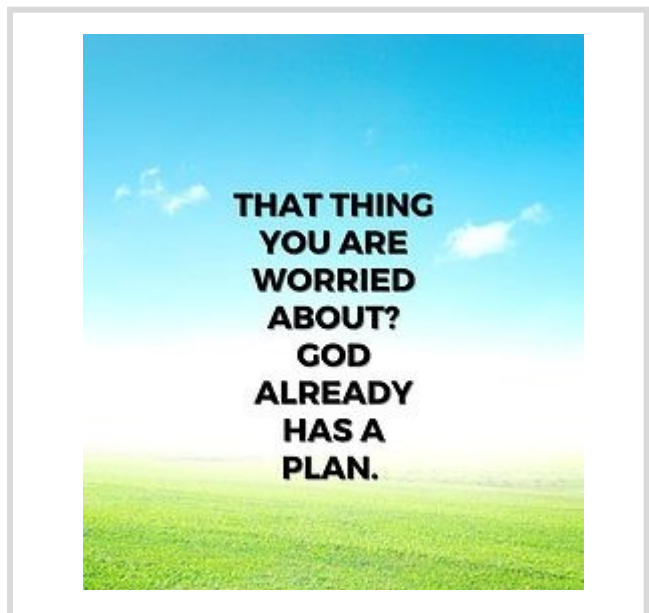


Thank you for your gifts!



**Out to Lunch** for May will be on Monday, May 19 at noon, at the Palmer House. All are welcome to join us!

We have applied for dates to participate in a **MCDONALDS MEATS FUNDRAISER**  
WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS!



# CHURCH NEWS

## PRAYER SHAWL

If you have a person in your life that you would like to gift a prayer shawl to, please contact the church office.



**Priscilla Bible Study** meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 9 am. All are welcome to join us!



## OFFERING ENVELOPES



We have blank offering envelopes in the church entry on the podium next to the guest book. Please feel free to take one as needed.



## Men's Bible Study Group Tuesday Mornings 10 AM

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., SSLC men are invited to participate in a Bible study in the nursery classroom wing.

For the past many years, the group has been reading its way through the Bible, simply taking a chapter a week. All are welcome!

## Visit Our Library!



Need a quiet place to read or relax? Try our church library! Comfy chairs, puzzles, and books for children, families, couples, singles, those who are grieving, seeking motivation, self-help or spiritual growth, plus Bibles, Bible studies, devotionals, biographies, fiction, and books about Martin Luther and people from the Bible. Stop and take a look!

## ALL MILITARY FAMILIES AND FRIENDS



We have a bulletin board to recognize those members and friends in their service for our country.

We would like to include all active and retired personnel from all branches of service, all law enforcement, and all firefighters.

The information we are gathering: Name, Rank, Dates of Service, Branch of Service, Where stationed or area. We would like to place a 4 inch by 6 inch photo with the description of each person. If you have photos and bios to be added to this board, please bring them to the church office.

## MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED:



We are looking for people to help count offerings after worship services. Summer months after 9 am worship; school year after 10 am worship. Both regular and fill-in spots available. Counting takes about 30-45 minutes. Training provided! Please contact Barb Marsh at 320-248-2949 or [bmarsh123@midco.net](mailto:bmarsh123@midco.net).

## SSLC Virtual Worship



## PROJECTION/SOUND BOOTH HELP NEEDED

We are in need of help in the projection/sound booth for Sunday and Wednesday worship services.

All ages from 15 and up.  
Please see Pastor for more info.



-We are broadcasting on our YOU TUBE CHANNEL-at South Santiago Lutheran Church on select Sundays going forward.

You can go to our website at [sslcmn.org](http://sslcmn.org) and click on the link there or directly within YouTube.

# CHURCH COUNCIL & STAFF INFORMATION

## Church Council Members

President • Ann Kooiker • [annmkooiker@gmail.com](mailto:annmkooiker@gmail.com)  
 Vice President • Greg Prokott • [prokott@yahoo.com](mailto:prokott@yahoo.com)  
 Secretary • Ruth Thom • [rathom@frontier.com](mailto:rathom@frontier.com)  
 Treasurer • Denise Fowler • [dmpfowler@gmail.com](mailto:dmpfowler@gmail.com)  
 Member • Kristin Forner • [krboomer3@gmail.com](mailto:krboomer3@gmail.com)  
 Member • Mark Swanson • [mark@hmcg.biz](mailto:mark@hmcg.biz)  
 Member • Corey Winkelman • [s1mm80@gmail.com](mailto:s1mm80@gmail.com)  
 Member • Bill Rogers • [rogers122@aol.com](mailto:rogers122@aol.com)  
 Member • Jakki Fidelman • [kyddjakki@gmail.com](mailto:kyddjakki@gmail.com)

## Staff

Pastor Allison Peterson • [pastor@sslcmn.org](mailto:pastor@sslcmn.org)  
 Office Administrator • Shelly Bluhm • [office@sslcmn.org](mailto:office@sslcmn.org)  
 Choir Director • Heidi Lecy • [hansenhouseofmusic@live.com](mailto:hansenhouseofmusic@live.com)  
 Music Ministry Coordinator • Heidi Lecy • [hansenhouseofmusic@live.com](mailto:hansenhouseofmusic@live.com)  
 Bookkeeper • Shelly Bluhm • [office@sslcmn.org](mailto:office@sslcmn.org)  
 Custodian • Sandy Empting • [windyofarm@aol.com](mailto:windyofarm@aol.com)  
 Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator • Karla Zerwas • [youth@sslcmn.org](mailto:youth@sslcmn.org)  
 High School Ministry Coordinator • Karla Zerwas • [youth@sslcmn.org](mailto:youth@sslcmn.org)  
 Adult Ministry Coordinator • Dee Punton • [adult@sslcmn.org](mailto:adult@sslcmn.org)

## Weekly Worship helpers

We have changed our “Kitchen” help to “Fellowship Hour ” that will run from 9 am until 10 am each Sunday. Please consider a Sunday for you and your family to serve your church family members. Sign up online at our website at [sslcmn.org](http://sslcmn.org)

	4/6	4/6	4/13	4/13	4/20	4/20	4/20	4/27	4/27
	8 AM	10 AM	8 AM	10 AM	6:30 AM	8 AM	10 AM	8 AM	10 AM
READER	Q. Leddy		B. Bolton		S. Empting T. Zehnder	B. Jergenson P. Kipka M. Prokott	B. Marsh		
USHERS	H. Klimmek A. Jurek	C. Pany W. Harkin L. DeBlieck E. DeBlieck	B. Trautner C. Klimmek M. Klimmek E. Elvester	M. Peterson L. Swanson A. Mlenek					S. Prokott B. Anderson
HEAD USHER	R. Harshman		R. Harshman		D. Jergenson	R. Harshman		R. Harshman	
GREETERS						Koenigs			A. Jurek
ACOLYTE				K. Waters					
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTING									
GOODIES									
COFFEE CREAMER									
COMMUNION HELPER					S. Bursch T. Zehnder, B. Empting	B. Jergenson G. Prokott A. Busch M. Humble B. Rogers, J.Koenig	D. Darsow	P. Willhite L. Waldbillig	
ALTAR GUILD					S. Empting	B. Stang D. Pozorski	B. Marsh C. Suckert L. Peterson		B. Marsh A. Busch
PROJECTION BOOTH									

## DANNY JERGENSON'S GOOD FRIDAY TRACTOR RIDE: A TRADITION OF FAITH

Each Good Friday, a familiar sight graces the roads of our local communities: Danny Jergenson driving his 1941 Farmall M tractor, pulling a trailer with a towering 11+ foot cross. This annual tradition, which began in 2014, is Danny's personal way of reminding all of us of the immense sacrifice that Jesus made for us on the cross.

Danny's idea was simple, yet powerful - he wanted to honor the day when Jesus gave His life for us and offer a visual reminder to others as they go about their day. What started as a small, heartfelt gesture has grown into a beloved tradition that spans 65 miles and takes Danny through the communities of

Santiago, Orrock, Big Lake, Becker, Clear Lake, and Palmer. Along the way he braves all kinds of weather, from sunshine to rain, wind to snow, because, as Danny says, "If Jesus can die on the cross for us, I can drive my tractor in all kinds of weather."

Although the ride was paused in 2020 due to the pandemic, Danny has continued this meaningful journey year after year. He even makes a stop at Rebecca's in Becker for a well-deserved lunch before finishing his route. As he makes his way through the towns, those who see him are encouraged to honk and wave as a sign of support and gratitude.

The tradition comes full circle on Easter morning when the cross, which Danny and his wife Brenda decorate with flowers is proudly displayed at South Santiago Lutheran Church. The sign reading "He Has Risen" serves as a joyful reminder of the resurrection and the hope that Easter brings.

The tractor, a family heirloom once owned by Brenda's grandfather, Walt Doering, adds a personal touch to the journey. Walt, who was known by many at SSLC and in the area, is remembered through this connection, making the ride even more meaningful.



Whether you're part of the this tradition or seeing Danny for the first time, take a moment to reflect on the message of the cross and the incredible love that Jesus has for each of us. South Santiago Lutheran Church invites everyone to worship with us this Easter and celebrate the resurrection of our Savior.

And if you happen to see Danny driving his tractor with the cross in tow, don't forget to give a honk and wave—this tradition is worth celebrating!



## PASTOR ALLISON



*I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.*

*Refrain:*

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known.*

*He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that He gave to me Within my heart is ringing. [Refrain]*

*I'd stay in the garden with Him Tho' the night around me be falling;  
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling. [Refrain]*

It's interesting how we sometimes hear a song or read a passage in a book and instantly think it was sung or written for us. We know that these composers and writers are not speaking directly to us or, for us, yet their words seem to say exactly how we feel. I often feel that way with certain hymns. *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*, *Silent Night*, and *Beautiful Savior*, all speak to me and I'm sure each of you have a hymn or two which reflects you and your faith. With the sun shining and the earth warming up as spring begins to settle in, I can't help think about the hymn *In the Garden*. It is not a hymn we traditionally sing, as it comes from the Methodist tradition, but it is so pretty.

*In the Garden* was written over a hundred years ago but each spring and summer it reminds me of the beauty of our earth and the gentleness of my relationship with Christ. The hymn was originally written after the composer had a vision of Mary Magdalene in the Garden at the resurrection of Christ. But I have always interpreted it as myself walking with Christ, talking with Christ, and the joy, the depth of joy, I feel when I spend time in prayer with Jesus.

There are many places where I feel close to God, a garden is just one. Where do you feel the presence of God the strongest? Sometimes we feel God repeatedly in the same place but at other times the presence of God, Jesus and Holy Spirit finds us in the strangest of places at the weirdest of times. One of the most majestic and beautiful times I experienced God with me was forty years ago driving through the Swiss Alps on a Sunday morning. Even after all this time, I can still remember the feeling I had that morning. The sense of peace. A feeling that God wanted me to slow down for a few minutes, not to worry about what others were saying, doing, and simply soak in the awe-inspiring vision of God's great cathedral, more beautiful and inspiring than Notre Dame had been. I might not have walked in the garden with God at that moment, but I felt as if I was holding Jesus' hand and discussing where I fit into God's great plan.

How about you? Have you ever felt that type of closeness with God? If so, where? What do you believe God was trying to tell you? Is there a hymn or scripture which inspires you to pray, to talk with God? A hymn or scripture which brings you a deep sense of peace and a feeling that you are connected to God? If so, why don't you listen to it or read it tonight? God is waiting to speak with you.

All God's blessings,

Pastor Allison

## THANK YOU TO:

\*All families who donated winter clothing for the Compassion Connection;  
\*Dee Punton for delivering the clothing;  
\*Barb Marsh and Sandy Empting for Lenten decorating;  
\*Brenda Jergenson and Ann Kooiker for baking communion bread;  
\*Ann Kooiker and David Darsow for hosting Ash Wednesday walk in events;

\*Buster Graning, Ralph Johnson, Brad Thom for snow removal;  
\*Thomas Zerwas and Kaleb Waters for delivering Lenten meals;  
\*Amy Busch for office help;  
\*Pastor Hollie and Micah Holt-Woehl for leading Lenten singing.

## APRIL BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

### **BIRTHDAYS**

4/01 Elsie Bistodeau	4/08 Joe Berthiaume
4/01 Wyatt Harkin	4/08 Dave Reisem
4/01 Alyssa Hansen	4/08 Sheri Haus
4/02 Isaak Herbst	4/09 Julie Johnson
4/02 Lyra Willhite	4/11 Miles Bistodeau
4/02 Brady du'Monceaux	4/13 Scott Bursch
4/03 Lincoln Hendricks	4/14 Amanda Timm
4/04 Dee Punton	4/13 Hanna Klimmek
4/04 Carey Janisch	4/14 Ralph Johnson
4/04 Emmett Stang	4/14 Jake Schuster
4/06 Denise Fowler	4/15 Beth Stang
4/07 David Darsow	4/17 Sierra Winkelman
	4/19 Everly Stang
	4/20 Clayton Lerdahl

4/21 Layla Fowler
4/27 Danny Jergenson
4/28 Karla Zerwas
4/28 Brooklyn Bierschbach
4/29 Mike Kydd
4/30 Diana Graning
4/30 Brenda Jergenson

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

4/12 Ted & Kathy Hochsprung
4/28 Randy & Kim Bader

## SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BREAKFAST CLUB

Happy Spring! Spring not only brings us new life and warm weather it also gives us Lent, the time to reflect on our faith. It gives us time to grow with the word of God and expand our knowledge about the Bible. Holy Week starts off April 13 with Palm Sunday and goes through the days of Christ up to the cross. Take time with your children and talk about Holy Week. There are books in our library that are a good way to introduce the events of Holy Week, the crucifixion, and the resurrection of Christ our Lord.

The children are having fun in their classes learning more and more Bible stories. They have been working on a new song that they are excited to preform of the congregation on Palm Sunday. We will be singing at both services. Children attending the first service and Sunday school, we ask that those children sing at both services. We would like you to take your child after they sing for the second service. It will be in the very beginning of the second service and will be excused right after. They should be done by 10:10. Thank you.

The end of our school year is coming fast and we have some fun things planned for the children.

April 20 - Easter , we will be having an Easter egg hunt at 9 am. Hoping this year it will be outside. Looking for some older confirmation kids to help out hide eggs at 8 am.

May 18 - last day of Sunday school & Breakfast Club. Teacher appreciation day, and children will be planting a garden for the Becker food shelf. We will also be having a fun ice cream treat afterwards to celebrate our year.

\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS \*

July 13-17 Vacation Bible School. 6:00-8:30 pm. More information coming. See Karla if you'd like to help out .

May God shower you with blessings of love and peace this Easter season.

## Where does my offering go?

Your offering is crucial to the mission of our church: *“Teaching the Word, Reaching the World.”*  
Questions about our budget? Ask any church council member.

April focus: Salary

Your offering helps us to teach the word and reach the world by hiring capable leaders who keep our building and programs operating, who teach and care for us and our community, and who lead us in worship. Our SSLC salary budget includes a full-time pastor and several part-time positions: custodian, office administrator, bookkeeper, choir director, musician, and ministry coordinators for adults, youth and family, and music, as well as payroll taxes and continuing education funding.

Our annual salary budget is \$148,615, or \$12,385/ month, or \$2858/wk, or \$9.72/wk per confirmed member.

Upcoming:

April–Salary	May–Building Maintenance	June–Worship
July–Music	August–Administrative Expenses	September–Education
October–Loan expenses	November–Youth	December–Outreach

## NEW DESIGNATED FUNDS USE POLICY

South Santiago Lutheran Church welcomes the donation of funds that are designated by the giver. The use of these funds are an extension of our mission to accomplish the goals of our ministry.

From time to time, the congregation may establish a list of projects that are identified to support the mission. These projects will be funded by the “special projects fund”. The SSLC council will establish the priorities of the projects with input, as appropriate, from the congregation.

When the special projects fund has at least 60% of the amount anticipated to be needed for the highest priority project, the formal quotes for the project will be obtained and presented to the church council to determine if the project may be authorized.

In addition to the special projects fund:

1. Money donated for a specific purpose will be reviewed to determine if this specific purpose supports the ministry of this congregation.

a) If it does not, this money should be returned to the giver or moved into the general fund if the giver cannot be identified or does not want the money returned.

b) If the money is accepted for this purpose, the money is to be placed in a designated fund that is for that purpose.

2. At any regular church council meeting and at least annually, the church council will review the balances in all designated funds.

a) For any designated fund for which the purpose/project has been completed, the church council will review the balance and determine if the funds should be transferred to another fund or the general fund.

b) For any designated fund that has been in place at least 2 years and the project/purpose has not been completed, the church council may vote (2/3majority required) to transfer those funds to another fund or the general fund. Every effort shall be made to support the purpose of the giver of the designated funds.

3. Any actions taken by the council will be communicated with transparency to the congregation and reported in the annual report to the congregation.

Approved by Congregational Council: March 3, 2025.



## ADULT MINISTRY

Hello and Happy Spring!

SSLC's "It's A Girl Thing" Annual luncheon will be held on Saturday, May 3rd. Join us for an inspiring event filled with connection, encouragement, and fellowship.



This year, we are honored to welcome Katie Shatusky as our guest speaker. Katie is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Thumbs Up, a nonprofit dedicated to mental health awareness and suicide prevention. Her powerful story of resilience, faith, and giving back—through both her advocacy and her personal journey—will uplift and inspire us all. Don't miss this opportunity to be encouraged and empowered! RSVP's requested for our meal count. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex or call the church office.

Save the date for our Next "Out to Lunch" on Monday, May 19th, at the Palmer House! Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office.



Thank you to everyone who has generously given their time and resources to support our church community. Whether you have volunteered to serve in any area, provided food for our Lenten soup suppers, fellowship time, or contributed to the meal for Paul For's funeral, your kindness and dedication are truly a blessing to SSLC. Thanks again.

See you on Sunday!

Dee

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### **CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT DEE PUNTON!!!!**

**D** – DELIGHTFUL / DILIGENT / DEVOTED / DEDICATED / DEPENDABLE / DRIVEN

**E** – ENERGETIC / EMPATHETIC / EFFICIENT / ENTHUSIASTIC / EASYGOING / ESTEEMED

**E** – ENJOYABLE / EARNEST / EFFECTIVE / ENCOURAGING / EAGER / ETHICAL / ENVISIONING

**P** – PASSIONATE / POSITIVE / PRODUCTIVE / PROACTIVE / PERCEPTIVE / PROFESSIONAL

**U** – UNDERSTANDING / UNSELFISH / UPBEAT / UNENDING / UNIFIED / UPLIFTING

**N** – NURTURING / NOBLE / NICE / NIFTY / NEIGHBORLY / NOURISHING / NOTEWORTHY

**T** – TRUSTWORTHY / TENDER / TECH-SAVVY / THOUGHTFUL / TEAM PLAYER

**O** – OPTIMISTIC / ORGANIZED / OPEN-MINDED / OBSERVANT / OBJECTIVE / OUTSTANDING

**N** – NEEDED / NON-JUDGEMENTAL / NETWORKER / NEED-FULFILLING

Dee – THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for your 3 ½ years of dedicated service to SSLC. You have changed the lives of members of SSLC and members of our community because you have touched our lives in a very special way. May God richly bless as you start your retirement journey. We are SO thankful we will still get to see you!!

Your friends and Sisters and Brothers in Christ at SSLC

## WHY JESUS?

### My Faith Story: Ruth Thom

I was baptized into a Lutheran church when I was six weeks old, and I have always been a member of a Lutheran church. I grew up and was confirmed in one of the largest ELCA churches in the country in Golden Valley, MN, graduated from Luther College in Decorah, IA, worked at Lutheran Bible Camps in WI, CA, and MN, and started married life as the wife of a Luther seminary student. I've worked as a youth director, preschool director, and Christian Education director at Lutheran churches, and an activities director for Lutheran Social Services.

I'm solidly Lutheran in my beliefs and my understanding of the Bible. I believe I am saved by the grace of God, and I am so grateful for that mercy. I try to live by the example that Jesus set for me, but as much as I try, I continually fail, so the fact that Jesus died on the cross for me is my comfort and hope.

Why do I believe? Sometimes I don't know. I have many doubts and questions, but being outside is where I feel closest to God. I see God's handiwork in the intricacies and splendor of creation, the vastness of the universe, the power of the ocean, and the magnificent variety of animals, plants and people.

Why is church membership important to me? It's one of the places where I learn and grow, and where I can sing and praise God. In each place that I have lived, I have felt the support of my church family. They have inspired and challenged me, as well as comforted me and rejoiced with me. I feel like I belong. Each time we have moved, our church family has been our landing place. It's also important to me that I support the mission of the church, both financially and with my time. So, I have been involved in a variety of ways over the years. I'm honored to currently be serving as an SSLC church council member.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Alberta Brown, Doc Bateson, Dave Carr (Sandra Cox's son-in-law), Perry Humble (Marilyn Humble's son), Kathy Christopherson (Kirk Christopherson's sister), Kim Dahle (Teresa Zehnder's cousin), Laurell (Shorty) Haus (Kris Mateyka's Dad), George Leppa (Don Erickson's friend), Terry Graning (Buster Graning's sister-in-law), Karen Cox (Susan Peterson and Buster Graning's sister), Audrey Nelson (Becky Bursch's Mom), Shelley Fassler, Magnus Breisnes (Teresa Zehnder's cousin), Ralph & Norma Frank (Dawn Eid's parents), Korey Lucas (Curt Jarvi's daughter), Kim Hansmeier (Lisa Orton's friend), Amy Gohman (Daughter of Ron and Susan Peterson).

**MILITARY PRAYERS:** Sydney Stommes, Hayden Fassler, Jeremy Schuch, Kyle Whitcomb.

**IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST OR PRAYER CHAIN, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE**

# YOUTH AND HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY



## CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Saturday, April 5, from  
9 am to 3 pm

**BRING YOUR IDEAS FOR  
STOLE EMBLEMS!**

## Lenten Soup Supper Fundraiser:

The youth will be serving Soup  
Supper on April 2.



Sign up online or talk to Karla if you can help!

## Spring Flower Fundraisers:



Gertens flower

fundraiser will begin Feb 17 and close March 31.  
Pickup at SSLC on Saturday, May 5.



Nelson Nursery Gift Cards will begin on Feb 17 and close  
March 31. Pickup at SSLC on Saturday,  
May 5.



## Easter baskets

Will be available  
to bid on in the  
narthex from  
March 5 until April 13.



Drawing for winners will be on  
Sunday, April 13.

## Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Sunday is April 27 at  
10 am worship for ninth graders  
who will be affirming the promises  
that their parents and godparents  
made at their baptisms.



## SAVE THE DATE! FOR GRADUATE QUILTS

will be gifted on Sunday, May 4, at 8 am.

Invite your family and friends to  
help celebrate the day!



**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH EMPTYING /  
REDEMPTION OF THE CANS, PLEASE CONTACT THE  
CHURCH OFFICE. EACH STUDENT THAT HELPS  
WILL RECEIVE PART OF THE PROCEEDS TOWARDS  
THEIR FAMILY ACCOUNT.**

**ALL FUNDS FROM RECYCLING DONATIONS  
GO TO OUR YOUTH PROGRAM. TRAILER IN  
CHURCH PARKING LOT.**



The senior high students aren't meeting during Lent but we encourage them to attend our Lent services and help in any of the areas in the church: kitchen, delivering meals, sound booth, selling tickets for Easter baskets, acolyting, etc. We would love to enjoy a bowl of soup with them during our soup suppers and have them have conversations with members of the congregation. Our senior high students are important to us and are valuable members of our congregation.

The spirit of Easter is all about hope, love, and joyful living. May you have a blessed month!

# March 3 , 2025 COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES HAVE NOT  
BEEN APPROVED**

1. Opening Devotions–led by Ann Kooiker, Jesus Calling by Sarah Young.
2. Meeting called to order at 6:58 p.m.
3. No visitors in attendance.
4. Adoption of Agenda, with the addition of Dee’s retirement under New Business–MSP.
5. February minutes corrected and approved, MSP.
  - Title of document: Agenda corrected to Minutes.
  - Designated Funds policy corrected to M/S and discussion tabled until March meeting.
  - No treasurer’s report this month.
6. Unfinished Business
  - a. Designated Fund Policy–after discussion, the words “has not begun” under 2Bwas changed to “has been completed”, and then MSP.
    - Discussion took place on where the policies are/should be kept and made available for consultation.
    - Publish policy in newsletter.
  - b. Background check policy–Ann will ask Denise and Kristin to give us a date when they will have this ready for approval, preferably within 4-6 weeks.
    - Find out what our insurance requires.
    - Find out from Shelly what is available through our SS curriculum.
    - Discussion regarding the importance of getting something in place, even if we need to make adjustments going forward.
  - c. Family Leave Policy–Ann will ask Mark to bring this to the April meeting.
  - d. Council goals set for 2025MSP.

With a focus on the mission of the church we will:

    - 1.Increase our 2025 annual income by \$20,000** to be able to:
      - Finish the year in the black
      - Have the funds to maintain a full time pastor with a salary consistent with synod guidelines
    - 2.Develop and approve a family leave policy per MN law.**
    - 3.Build and Strengthen relationships within our church and community by holding two new fellowship events.**

Discussed a variety of potential events.

As we strive to achieve these goals, we are committed to transparency, good communication, and a positive attitude.
7. New Business
  - a. Approval of 16 Confirmands MSP.
  - b. June 1 church service (pastor gone.)
    - Ann Kooiker will take the lead on liturgy.
    - Brad Thom will provide the sermon.
    - Pastor is planning a trip for November and will also take vacation days between Christmas and New Year’s.
  - c. Committees–discussion on effectiveness of committee format and discussion of the implications of Dee’s retirement.
    - Special executive committee meeting to discuss how to handle the open position is scheduled for March 13 at 7pm.
8. Adjournment at 8:30 pm.

# SIMPLY GIVING ONLINE OFFERINGS

Churches have obligations just like families and businesses. When church members agree to an automatic payment arrangement, we can better budget our income because we know how much is coming and when. And if you leave town and miss worship, your giving and promised contributions are taken care of for you automatically so you don't have to worry about it.



Visit the website: [www.sslcmn.com](http://www.sslcmn.com) or email [office@sslcmn.org](mailto:office@sslcmn.org), or the church office if you are interested in Simply Giving.

## NOISY OFFERINGS COMING UP



**APRIL 27**

**Children International**  
**Sponsor Child**

**REMARK CANON**

We give children in poverty the tools they need to create brighter futures for themselves and their communities. With the support of our donors and sponsors, children and youth gain the skills and confidence they need to create promising futures free from poverty.

**MAY 18**

**HILLSIDE HOPE THRU HOOVES**  
**RAMSEY, MN**



The heart of our program is to provide a faith based sanctuary and equine ministry for individuals, families, and groups to experience hope, healing and personal growth.

The focus of Hillside HOPE Thru Hooves is to provide a Christ-centered foundation of services using the healing bond with horses to mentor, and empower behavioral changes, and enhance skills for people of all ages. This learning approach is a powerful tool for people of all walks of life dealing with real life issues related to emotional, behavioral, communication and relationships.

### FEB OFFERINGS

General	\$17,419
Building	\$2,350
Repairs/Projects	\$400
Youth	\$10
Noisy Offering	\$215
Coffee	\$16
Other	\$5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,415</b>

**I AM THIRD.  
GOD. OTHERS. ME.**

### FACTS AND FIGURES


Funds	Month	Y-T-D
Total Income*	<b>\$23,647</b>	<b>\$41,345</b>
Total Expenses	<b>\$20,327</b>	<b>\$43,245</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$3,019</b>	<b>-\$1,900</b>

\*Total Income combines all Offerings PLUS any other income we have received for the month.







**Attendance**  
**8 / 10 AM**

2/22	74 / 34
2/9	82 / 86
2/16	75 / 59
2/23	68 / 31

# APRIL 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am	<b>2</b> 5:30 Soup Supper 7 pm Worship 	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>5</b> Confirmation Retreat 9 am— 5 pm
<b>6</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 9 am Choir 9 am Women of SSLC 10 am Worship <b>NEW MEMBER WELCOME</b>	<b>7</b> Priscilla Bible Study 9 am  Sunshine Group 10 am Council meets 6:30 pm	<b>8</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am  Bible Book Club 6:30 pm	<b>9</b> 5:30 Soup Supper 7 pm Worship 	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>12</b> Mission Quilting 9-noon
<b>13 PALM SUNDAY</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Sunday school sings-both Easter basket drawing	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am	<b>16</b>	<b>17 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  Worship 7 pm	<b>18</b> OFFICE CLOSED  <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>  Worship 7 pm	<b>19</b>
<b>20 EASTER</b> 6:30 am Worship 8 am Worship 9 am Easter Egg Hunt 10 am Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am  Bible Book Club 6:30 pm	<b>23</b> Confirmation 6:30 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>26</b> Graduate Quilting 9-noon
<b>27</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship <b>NOISY OFFERING CHILDREN INTERNAT. SPONSOR CHILD</b>  <b>CONFIRMATION AT 10 AM WORSHIP</b> 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am	<b>30</b> Confirmation 6:30 pm  Random Acts of Kindness packing			

# MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 It's a Girl Thing 11:30 am—2 pm 
<b>4</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship <b>GRADUATE QUILTS            GIFTED AT 8 AM</b> 	<b>5</b> Priscilla Bible Study 9 am Sunshine Group 10 am Council meets 6:30 pm Flower fundraiser pickup Cemetery Clean up 6 pm	<b>6</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am	<b>7</b> Confirmation Random Acts of Kindness 6 pm	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10
<b>11</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship <b>MOTHERS DAY</b>	12	<b>13</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am Bible Book Club	14	15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17
<b>18</b> 8 am Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am Worship <b>TEACHER APRECIATION</b> <b>KIDS PLANT GARDEN</b> <b>NOISY OFFERING</b> <b>HILLSIDE HOPE</b> <b>THROUGH HOOVES</b> 	<b>19</b> Out to Lunch Noon Palmer House 	<b>20</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am	21	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 Mission Quilting 9 am
<b>25</b> 9 am Worship	<b>26</b> Memorial Day	<b>27</b> Men's Bible Study 10 am Bible Book Club 6:30 pm	28	29	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 

**South Santiago Lutheran Church**  
14675 - 37th Street  
Clear Lake, MN 55319

**Pastor Allison Peterson**

**Phone: 763-662-2048**  
**Email: [office@sslcmn.org](mailto:office@sslcmn.org)**  
**Website: [www.sslcmn.org](http://www.sslcmn.org)**

*We are a congregation whose core values seek changed lives through the power of the Holy Spirit by forming and sustaining life-long personal faith in God through Christ Jesus. We practice this by engaging in cross-generational ministry and radical hospitality as it is revealed by God's Word. We do this by connecting with our congregation, the community and the world.*

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Worship 8 AM & 10 AM

Sunday School 9 AM

**Office Hours** Monday 8:30 am—3 pm  
Tuesday 8:30 am—3 pm  
Wednesday 8:30 am—3 pm

## CHURCH NEWS



### **Christ in our Home**

Is a daily devotional booklet for all ages. Please feel free to pick one up in the church entry.

### **PASTOR VISITS/NOTIFICATION:**

If you or someone you know will be hospitalized and would like a call or visit from Pastor Allison please contact the church office or her directly at 651-391-7467.



Monthly on a Monday from 3:30 pm–5:30

Salem Lutheran Church,  
90 Riverside Drive, St. Cloud

### **Free Food distribution**

Oakwood Church in Becker  
First Wednesday at 10:30 am



### **Free Frozen Meals distribution**

C.A.R.E. in Foley  
Second Monday  
from 11 am to  
noon