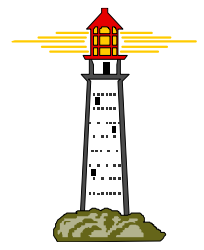


# The Pilot

"JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME  
OVER LIFE'S TEMPESTUOUS SEA ...  
CHART AND COMPASS COME FROM THEE:  
JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME."



Volume 12, No. 3

January, 2008

## Church Council

### **Board of Elders**

David Lohse  
James Schendel  
James Pearson  
James Tessmer  
Robert Dixon  
Glenn Schwartz

### **Board of Education**

Jerome Meyer  
Bill Vollbrecht  
Brent Lange  
Paul Lieder  
Joshua Lange  
Jeff Vollrath

### **Board of Finance**

Doug Beise  
Rod Bechtold  
Scott Anderson  
David Lieder  
Scott Jaumann  
Dennis Leerssen

### **Board of Trustees**

Tim Hallstrom  
Mike Reich  
Tom Bursch  
Bill Schendel  
Steve Gutknecht  
Doug Reich

### **Pastor**

Dennis K. Strong

### **School Faculty**

Principal:  
Matthew Meitner  
Nathan Hochmuth  
Merry Leerssen  
DeLyle Schultz  
Kathy Strong

### **Office Secretary**

Tawnya Lieder

Philippians 4:8 (NIV)<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Here is a story for you to think about (not your pastor):

Some years ago, I walked into my office after a Sunday morning service to find a

sandwich bag on my desk containing three chocolate brownies. Some thoughtful and anonymous person who knew my love for chocolate had placed them there, along with a piece of paper that had a short story written on it. I immediately sat down and began eating the first brownie as I read the following story:

Two teenagers asked their father if they could go the theater to watch a movie that

*(Continued on page 3) **Movie***

## Notes from Annual Meeting

Here is a summary of what took place at our Annual meeting.

There were 27 present at the Open Forum. There were 37 present at the Voters' Meeting.

Reports were given by each of the boards.

The list of new Council men include:

Board of Elders: Robert Dixon and Glenn Schwartz

Board of Education: Joshua Lange and Jeffrey Vollrath

Board of Finance: Scott Jaumann and Dennis Leerssen

Board of Trustees: Steve Gutknecht and Doug Reich.

Head Ushers: Mike Recht and Brian Schmid

The Trustees filled us in on the crumbling wall due to water damage on the south side of the church. They had received 2 bids, \$3,600 and \$7,000. They are waiting for one more bid to come in. The voters decided that the wall needs to be repaired as soon as possible. The Trustees will compare the bids and decide which bid to accept.

Our treasurer informed us that in our present budget, we earmarked about \$2,100 per month for repayment of our loan. Since we did not take out the loan right away in July, we have about \$5,000 available for the project.

Other business included a question by a voter about using the Contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer in our Contemporary/Blended Worship Services. The Board of Elders will look into the concerns and address them.

Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Narthex.

## Councilmen's Appreciation/ Salem New Member Dinner

On Sunday, January 27 at 11:45 a.m. the Ladies' Aid will be hosting a potluck lunch to recognize the Councilmen going off the Council and to get to know Salem members who have joined us over the 2007 year.

All are invited to attend and get to know the other members, thank the outgoing councilmen and enjoy the entertainment from some of our own ***Hardly Herd*** group.

# Lent

Yes, Lent is coming quickly. With Easter being at one of the earliest dates in the calendar year that it can be, Ash Wednesday will be on February 6. The services will be at 5:45 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Then the following Wednesdays, the service will be at 7:30 p.m.

The theme this year will be "***Crossroads—Traveling with our Savior.***" Once again, our WELS pastors will be exchanging pulpits during the Lenten season.

The Parent-Teacher Organization will serve the Soup n' Sandwich meal from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday.

The schedule for the Soup n' Sandwich meal servers will be:

- February 6 Parent-Teacher Organization
- February 13 Boy and Girl Pioneers
- February 20 Ladies' Aid
- February 27 Church Council
- March 5 Choir and Handbell Ringers
- March 12 [We need someone]

If we can find a group of members to take care of the March 12 Soup n' Sandwich Supper, please contact Pastor Strong.

In the meantime, rearrange your schedule so that you can be present at the Lenten Services, following our Lord's footsteps to the cross where he died for your sins.

**Welcome:**  
 Brandon Olson, Anthony Pittman and Ryanne Reinking. They were confirmed on Dec. 16th.  
 Louise Baker was received into membership.  
 Welcome to Bryant Miyazaki. He was baptized on Jan. 13.

## Ushering Schedule

**The new ushering schedule is being worked on. All ushers will be notified when the schedule is complete.**

# Ladies' Aid News

The Ladies' Aid elected new officers: Marlys Mooney, President; Char Dixon, Vice-Pres.; Cindy Manthei, Secretary; and Deb Beise, Treasurer.

The Ladies' Aid is working on the lunch for the Councilmen Appreciation and Salem New Member Dinner to be held on Sunday, January 27.

They continue to visit the sick in our congregation as well as shut-ins and babies.

If you would like to learn more about our Ladies' Aid, please feel free to contact any of the ladies listed above. You can also contact the pastor.

## Items for school

We collect:

- Campbell products—UPC symbols
- "Box Tops for education" from General Mills products
- Kemp's Milk Program
- Used Cell phones
- Used Computer printer ink cartridges and laser cartridges
- Pop can tabs, given to the Ronald McDonald House
- Dominoes Pizza proof of purchase dots
- "Food Club" product UPC's
- Nestle Pure Life Bottled Water labels

Drop these collections off at church or school.

Have a *Target Charge Card*?

Designate Salem School as recipients of 1% of your charges.

Shop at *Office Depot*?

Give them our Salem school ID: 70054214  
And our school will receive 5% credit.

*DirectTV*

If you sign up for DirecTV or extend your subscription by calling 1-888-388-4724 and give them our school code: JYGN, our school will receive \$50.00

(Continued from page 1) *Movie*

all their friends had seen. After reading some reviews about the movie on the Internet, he denied their request. "Aw dad, why not?" they complained. "It's rated PG-13, and we're both older than thirteen!" Dad replied: "Because that movie contains nudity and portrays immorality as being normal and acceptable behavior. "But dad, those are just very small parts of the movie! That's what our friends who've seen it have told us. The movie is two hours long and those scenes are just a few minutes of the total film! It's based on a true story and good triumphs over evil, and there are other redeeming themes like courage and self-sacrifice. Even the movie review websites say that!"

"My answer is 'no,' and that is my final answer. You are welcome to stay home tonight, invite some of your friends over, and watch one of the good videos we have in our home collection. But you will not go and watch that film. End of discussion."

The two teenagers walked dejectedly into the family room and slumped down on the couch. As they sulked, they were surprised to hear the sounds of their father preparing something in the kitchen. They soon recognized the wonderful aroma of brownies baking in the oven, and one of the teenagers said to the other, "Dad must be feeling guilty, and now he's going to try to make it up to us with some fresh brownies. Maybe we can soften him with lots of praise when he brings them out to us and persuade him to let us go to that movie after all."

About that time I began eating the second brownie from the sandwich bag and wondered if there was some connection to the brownies I was eating and the brownies in the story. I kept reading...

The teens were not disappointed. Soon their father appeared with a plate of warm brownies which he offered to his kids. They each took one. Then their father said, "Before you eat, I want to tell you something: I love you both so much. "The teenagers smiled at each other with knowing glances. Dad was softening.

"That is why I've made these brownies with the very best ingredients. I've made them from scratch. Most of the ingredients are even organic. The best organic flour. The best free-range eggs. The best organic sugar. Premium vanilla and chocolate."

The brownies looked mouth-watering, and the teens began to become a little impatient with their dad's long speech.

"But I want to be perfectly honest with you. There is one ingredient I added that is not usually found in brownies. I got that ingredient from our own back yard. But you needn't worry, because I only added the tiniest bit of that ingredient to your brownies. The amount of the portion is practically insignificant. So go ahead, take a bite and let me know what you think."

"Dad, would you mind telling us what that mystery ingredient is before we eat?"

"Why? The portion I added was so small, just a teaspoonful. You won't even taste it."

"Come on, dad; just tell us what that ingredient is."

"Don't worry! It is organic, just like the other ingredients." "Dad!" "Well, OK, if you insist. That secret ingredient is organic...dog poop."

I immediately stopped chewing that second brownie and I spit it out into the waste basket by my desk. I continued reading, now fearful of the paragraphs that still remained.

Both teens instantly dropped their brownies back on the plate and began inspecting their fingers with horror.

"DAD! Why did you do that? You've tortured us by making us smell those brownies cooking for the last half hour, and now you tell us that you added dog poop! We can't eat these brownies!"

"Why not? The amount of dog poop is very small compared to the rest of the ingredients. It won't hurt you. It's been cooked right along with the other ingredients. You won't even taste it. It has the same consistency as the brownies. Go ahead and eat!"

"No, Dad...NEVER!"

"And that is the same reason I won't allow you to go watch that movie. You won't tolerate a little dog poop in your brownies, so why should you tolerate a little immorality in your movies? We pray that God will not lead us unto temptation, so how can we in good conscience entertain ourselves with something that will imprint a sinful image in our minds that will lead us into temptation long after we first see it?"

I discarded what remained of the second brownie as well as the entire untouched third brownie. What had been irresistible a minute ago had become detestable. And only because of the very slim chance that what I

(Continued on page 4) *Movie*

## Babysitting Clearinghouse

Are you looking for a dependable babysitter? Are you looking for babysitting jobs?  
If you are a babysitter or if you need a babysitter,  
please contact Carol Meyer, coordinator at 763-682-3754 or mac0508@hotmail.com.

(Continued from page 3) **Movie**

was eating was slightly polluted. (Surely it wasn't...but I couldn't convince myself.)

What a good lesson about purity! Why do we tolerate any sin? On the day of the Passover, the Israelites were commanded to remove every bit of leaven from their homes. Sin is like leaven - a little bit leavens the whole lump (1Corinthians 5:6, 7), faith and sin, don't mix.

Share this with your children. Utilize this thinking in your own lives. May God bless your faithfulness.

## Sunday Bible Study

**Man and Woman in God's World.** Is the Bible sexist? Is God sexist? Are women treated as inferiors in the Bible? Or are they to be given honor and respect? Are the roles of men and women supposed to be different? We are now studying the role of men and women as God directs in the Bible. Join us in our Bible Study on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.

## Any copier paper being thrown out?

In the past we have received business paper that has an outdated letterhead, yet the backside is blank and usable

for school. If you know of any businesses that have outdated letterhead on 8 1/2 by 11 paper that is clean on one side, we would be happy to take it. Donated paper helps us save on costs. We do have a large supply of colored paper that should last us a few years. So we are looking for the white paper.

## Planned Giving Committee

We have the members of our Planned Giving Committee in place. Charles Alcon will serve as chairman. Sheila Hallstrom and Betsy Liberato will also serve on the committee. The committee will meet to set up guidelines and review what their work is to be.

It will involve educating, encouraging and getting members involved in using planned giving instruments and helping members to see that by including the Lord in their financial planning, they can provide more for their heirs and avoid overpaying to the government.

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## Electronic Version of newsletter:

To help us to reduce costs of paper and postage (and you getting it quicker), we would like to offer to send this newsletter to you by email. It will be sent as a PDF file to your inbox. To do this, please send an email to secretary@salemwels. The email will be added to our data base for sending out the newsletters and also whenever something

else important comes up. Another way to get the newsletter is by going to our website and either viewing it there or downloading it. When you email the secretary, indicate if you would like it attached to your email or if you wish to be notified of the posting on the website for you to go and get it.

We will continue to send it by regular postal mail unless you indicate email notification.



## **Finances:**

The end of the Second Quarter report is available in the Narthex at church.

Our building projects that have been approved are completed and the bills are being paid. We will need your extra offerings to help pay off the loan for the capital improvements that we as a church have voted on. Your envelopes can be mailed! Or you can use the Thrivent Simply Giving program. Help us to stay on track so that we can carry out our mission.

If you would like to give a special donation to the capital improvements, please contact our treasurer, Dave Lieder.

***Our loan payoff stands at \$91,047.***