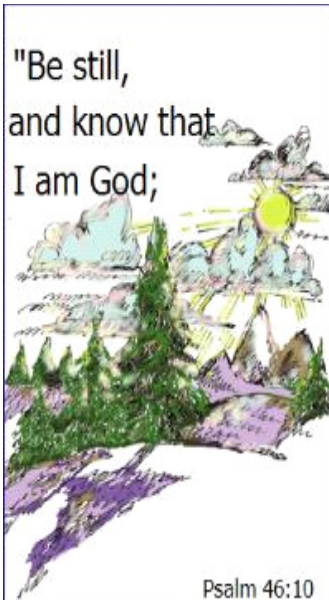


The Herald



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Dear members of Salem,

It is with a heavy heart that I have an announcement to share with you all. Earlier this week, Pastor Moen tendered his resignation and asked to be released from his call here at Salem. The leadership council has accepted his resignation, effective February 5. I respect Pastor's faithful courage to follow God's call wherever it leads him. Pastor's dedication and continuing example of how a person with a true servant's heart acts, always to serve the lord with gladness, has left a tangible mark on Salem. I look forward with great anticipation to where God's path for us at Salem will lead. And if Pastor Moen's path and ours should cross again, I will smile to see an old friend in Christ.

So please join my family and I as we spend the next week or so, not questioning why Pastor has to go, but thanking him for his service.

We are planning a pot luck luncheon next Sunday, February 5th, Scout Sunday, in Pastor's honor. I hope you all can attend. May God continue to bless us all to excess.

Thank You ,

Bill Schneider
Congregation President

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice,

the earth melts. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Board of Education



February finds us deep into the winter months here in Western New York. However, the Board of Education is thinking ahead to summer as we have begun the process of planning for VBS. The dates and other details are yet to be determined, but we are looking at all the possibilities now and we will announce details down the road.

I have been using my monthly article as a way to get things off my mind recently and this month the thing kicking around in my head kind of ties into February. Valentine's Day is the month's "big day" and that deals with showing love to others. In my head the last few weeks when I have read an article here or there or during my daily quiet times has been "love the person, hate the sin." I forget

when I first heard that phrase, but it is a hard principle to live by. Too many times we cannot separate the sin from the person, which I struggle with from time to time. We are all God's creations and He loves all of us the same, no matter how disobedient we are to Him. We are to look on every person with love without looking at the sin they struggle with, no matter what that sin is.

This month, try to look on a complete stranger and think "I love this person because they are God's creation." Share the love that God has shared with you through the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ.

Have a great month!
Matt Fanton



Have you wondered about the altar flowers?

How to sign up or go about getting them? You may order them through a florist or purchase your own arrangement. You

may also use your own vase or we have a number of them that you could use. Our local supermarkets carry a nice variety of flowers for you to choose from that are not too expensive. It doesn't

even have to be a special occasion to sign up, we all can thank God for blessings in our lives anytime of the year. If you sign up, Linda Hall will be giving you a call the week before to remind you that you have flowers that week. Tip: Did you know that lighter color flowers in an arrangement are more visible in the sanctuary than dark colors?

Also, in the back of the church on the wall by the front doors is an altar flower board that has each week listed. You can check out available dates and



Welcome to
Our Family

Baptism

On January 28th Pastor Moen baptized **Arthur Hamilton Johnston** into our Salem family. He was born on November 16, 2011 at Women & Children's Hospital in Buffalo to Jessica and Sam Johnston. His sponsors are David & Dawn Duerr.



Congratulations to Devon Hayden for becoming one of Springville Middle School's Top Spellers as noted in the recent Buffalo News.. Great Job!

Stephen Ministry

In Matthew 18, Jesus promises to be with us . That's one of the great miracles of Stephen Ministry. When a Stephen Minister meets one to one with his or her care receiver , Jesus is present too. He brings the power of His transforming love, and healing only He can give. Next are a few examples of what care receivers are saying about Stephen Ministry:

As a man, it was difficult and awkward reaching out for help. But I'm glad I did. I probably could have made it alone, but it sure was a lot easier having a Stephen Minister to talk to.

The best thing about Stephen Ministry was it was so confidential. Nobody even knew I had a Stephen Minister. I had never been able to open up to someone before and had always kept my

feelings to myself. My Stephen Minister helped me to talk about the painful things, which opened the door to God's healing.

Remember, we are here to help and lead you to healing through Jesus. Don't be alone!!

Lois Kenyon- Stephen Minister in Christ



Saturday, February 18th 7:00pm
Music, dinner, dancing,
fun & fellowship !
Come and enjoy a
Roast Chicken Dinner.
\$30 / couple presale, \$35 at door \$17.50 / single.
Tickets available in the church office or see John
Jurewicz, Wayne Dieter or Sue Senecal.



Valentine
Fellowship
Dinner



Is everyone enjoying the mild winter? At least it's keeping home heating costs down. For those who like outdoor activities, it's a negative. But gaso- line is saved by not driving to parks and ski areas. Unlike the snow, Salem's bills are piling up —faster than contributions

are coming in. If, for various reasons, you are unable to at- tend services, please praise God and mail your envelopes to the church. The Lord and Salem will both be grateful.

Carol Reiber—Business Manager

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Bringing Youth to Christ through a Scouting Ministry

The Scouting program at Salem Lutheran Church and Preschool is more than just an activity for our youth to learn about the outdoors.

Scouting provides fun, fellowship, and training to our youth as well as youth in our community. It emphasizes honesty, self-reliance, and respect. Through a year-round program, it affects character, citizenship, and personal fitness.

But the success of our Scouting depends on our volunteers, who serve in a variety of leadership roles so that our young people may benefit from our Scouting ministry.

As the Boy Scouts of America celebrates its anniversary, we salute the splendid volunteers who serve as Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, and Venturing Advisors, and in other positions of leadership.

"I think the Gospel is a very powerful, yet a very simple message. It is a message of love, respect, and responsibility. Scouting is all of that."

—Pastor Peter Paine, Waukegan, Illinois

"It (the God and Country program) really made me think about my relationship with God and made me evaluate it." —Scout Robert Lalley, Princeton, New Jersey

"When you look at the Scout Law and the principles which Scouting teaches young people, all those things are basically biblical principles."

—Pastor Robert Cushman, Princeton, New Jersey

"I've seen him study the Bible more in preparation to do devotions, that all the boys participate in . . ."

—Elinor Dalene, Parent, Wyckoff, New Jersey

"It is our troop, we can really build it the way we want, we can determine those factors that are important to us to build into the program, just as God would have us to do."

—Pastor Don James, Wyckoff, New Jersey

Many volunteers give their time so the members of Scouting will be involved in a quality program. Merit badge counselors help Scouts learn more about vocations and hobbies. Volunteers see that the Scout camps

of the Greater Niagara Frontier Council have the necessary physical facilities and that all camp activities meet the high health and safety standards of the national organization.

Volunteers serve behind the scenes on committees so that community organizations using the Scouting program can find the best leadership possible for the youth related to their organizations. Volunteers, too, provide training for these leaders and offer a continuing service to every Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, and Venturing crew.

Many men and women offer their services to Scouting, but more volunteers are always needed to serve as leaders or share their special skills with young people and other adults. All these people experience a special sense of achievement through their work in Scouting.

We congratulate all the volunteers who are active in Scouting throughout Springville and the Red Jacket District and want to offer a special prayer and word of the thanks to the leaders of Troop 59 & Pack 59 chartered to Salem Lutheran Church and Preschool.