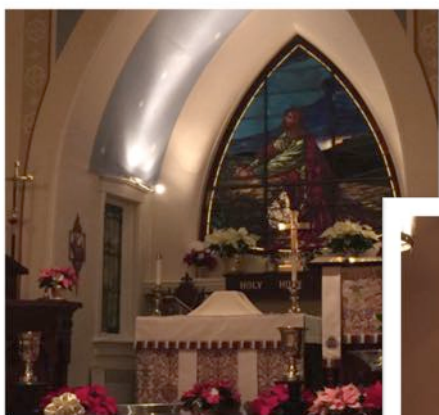
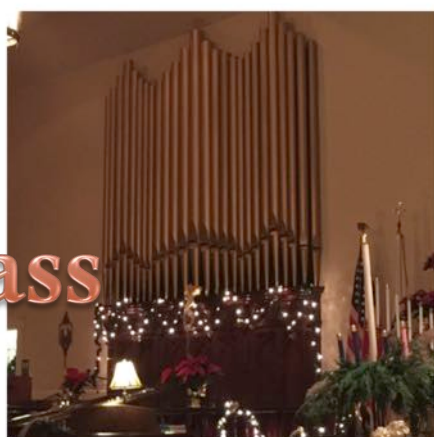


**Newsletter Sponsor-** Stan & Arleah Buehler: In celebration of the New 2015 Year.



## ChristMass



We're still praying... Have you been faithful in praying for those on our prayer list? Pr. Nathan has written weekly prayers on the top of each week's bulletin for you to pray with your brothers and sisters who have also committed themselves to pray for those on the prayer list, by name. THIS is exactly why we keep a prayer list. Take this smallest of commitments as a member of this congregation today!

## 2015 is already looking like an amazing year!

From the desk of Pr. Nathan...

Greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus Our Lord, the word incarnate, who came to us in flesh, through the Blessed Virgin Mary, and was born to reign forever!

Our Christ Mass here at Salem this year was most spectacular and we gathered to celebrate the birth of Jesus with a wonderfully large crowd and loving hearts seeking to give thanks

to the Father for the gift of the +Son. Let this be a mark of intention for 2015. Let your presence at Christmas Eve be the beginning of a new life in you. Our Lord does not abandon you, so please do not abandon Him in your life. Rather, let that presence within you shine as bright as His star so that others may know of His presence in your life. No matter how much we speak of following Christ only by actually following Him are we seen,

Continued on

4

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join the women of Salem and the women of St. Paul's at Sts. Cyril & Methodius DANVILLE for our annual retreat, there are still open spots!

### Flowers

Altar Flowers are now \$20/vase an increase of \$1 for 2015. Call Arleah if you'd like to sponsor a vase in 2015 as there are a few openings.

### Adult Sunday School

Beginning Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> Ken Campbell will lead the adult class in a discussion of "Why am I a CHURCH MEMBER?" Join this group NOW!!

**The 2015 Sponsor sheets are in great need of sponsors!**

If you can't make it to the weekly services, but would like to be a sponsor of one of the many needed, call Chris in the Church Office: 362-9222

## WMF

The WMF held their annual Cookie Exchange. Boxes of cookies were put together and delivered to our shut-ins and to those of our members who may not have a "baker" in the house! WMF also supplied the cookies at the Annual Christmas Brunch.

They are sponsoring ½ of the fee for the women's retreat this year again. All women are welcome to join the fun!

## Letters to the church...

**from Sarah Challenger's friend, Oren Spangenburg-**

Thank You! Thank You!...for your prayers and cards during my recent open heart surgery. It is a wonderful feeling to know that I have an extended Church Family in Elizabethtown. Also, thanks goes to the "Shawl Ministry" for their caring and lovely knitted shawl. It finds a place on the back of our couch. Thanks for your Christian love and prayers. Prayers do get answered.

**from Irene Lehman and Family –**

Thank you to everyone who shared our grief at John's passing, the choir, parish life, and so many others

who filled such a sorrowful day with love and support.

Our church was so important to John and we all thank you for the many ways we have been surrounded by our church family.

**Pr. Nathan was recently featured in Lutheran Forum Letter – [www.alpb.org](http://www.alpb.org) - with a paper presented at the STS retreat in Chicago this past September. His paper outlines why cremation is not appropriate for Christians and is available for you anytime. Copies are in the narthex.**

## Evening Services at Salem Lutheran

**MON., JAN. 26 @ 7:30 pm**

"The Confession of Peter" and "The Conversion of Paul"

**ASH WEDNESDAY SVC. – Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM**

"Imposition of Ashes"

Weekly Lenten Svc's will be held at various churches in the area. Watch your emails and bulletins for locations. All svc's start at 6:15 pm with the Lenten Supper and continue with the service at 7:15 pm.

## In the Community...

### **ELIZABETHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Mon., Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> 7**

**pm at** Trinity U.C.C., E'ville

Don't miss one of our own friends doing a presentation of "Men's Hats" at the Feb. meeting! Brian Stahl will have his collection of men's hats on display and present a program about them.

### **FITNESS CLASSES CONTINUE:**

if you are interested check the calendar for the twice-a-week fitness classes in fellowship hall

## In the Family...

### **January Birthdays**

4-Carol Reitz  
5-Jessica Ingbritsen  
14-Mark Ingbritsen  
14-Dave Reiner  
18-Lloyal Hain  
20-Evaline "Eppie" Lehman  
HAPPY 93<sup>rd</sup> BIRTHDAY!  
22-Cory McCartney  
27-Arlene Feidt  
HAPPY 80<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!  
29-Ben Cunningham  
HAPPY 78<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!

### **Jan. Anniversaries**

25-Robert & Donna Portzline

### **February Birthdays**

1-Pr. Nathan  
6-Bob Sitlinger, Jr.  
11-Stan Buehler  
17-Dave Paul, Sr.  
17-Norma Reiner  
20-Randy Challenger  
26-Clara Bowman

We are learning all the time...when we are intentional about it...we can grow

## Christian Education

It is again an honor and a delight to report that Christian Education is growing at Salem Lutheran Church. Here are some highlights that some have requested:

**CONFIRMATION:** This class designed for the instruction of those who are ready to become knowledgeable members of the congregation. The 2-year program teaches Church History, The Small Catechism (10 Commandments, Sacraments of the Church, Theology) and an understanding of faith and life as a Christian. Students must serve as acolytes, attend class and worship regularly, and participate in a yearly project. The class meets two Wednesdays a month from 6-7PM, and two Sundays a month from 11-12:30PM. See Pr. Nathan for details. Anyone near 7<sup>th</sup> or

8<sup>th</sup> grade may join when parents also believe their child is ready.

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

classes each Sunday from 10:10 AM until 11:00 AM teach our children basic Bible Stories, build friendships, play, create faith-filled crafts, enjoy snacks, and fun. See Kasey Campbell, SS Superintendent for more information and to join!

**ADULT'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** meets in Fellowship Hall for coffee and discussion.


A new 6 week session will begin on January 25<sup>th</sup> with the topic "Why am I a Church Member?" See Ken Campbell for more!

acknowledged, and believed to be true Christians. The mark of such Christians is the gathering for the Holy Eucharist, the place where Christ promised to meet us. Without this sustaining Grace we quickly wander and become lost. Thanks be to God that the requirement for such is repentance and FAITH! The most simple and straight pathway to Jesus (called out by prophets of old, and John the Baptist) is true repentance of the wrong we have done, and the faith in forgiveness that comes through Christ alone! The message of repentance is everywhere, and with Lent just around the corner perhaps we can keep hold of the feeling of Advent, and its holy anticipation, our own preparation for Christ.

We are on a journey together here at Salem Lutheran Church. We are learning, singing, praying, and loving our way closer together as the Body of Christ. Without one another we would feel so alone. I am so thankful for your love and support shown to me in 2014 and throughout the Christmas season with your cards and gifts. As we look upon this New Year we can see so many great things for which we can prepare. As we look back, perhaps we see things, which could have been done differently. Change them. Make right that which is wrong, straight, that which is has been crooked. In 2014 we've all lost loved ones, but their memory is strong among us, and their presence is closest at the table of our Lord. The veil is thin, and the vale is no longer full of tears, for the Lord is present with us, and they with Him...and too they with us!

Let us pray together daily, a most noble duty of the day for Christians, and let us gather as often as we are able to build up what is broken, to tear down what divides, and to nurture that which needs to grow.

May the peace of the incarnate Lord Jesus Christ cause you to give thanks, cause you to rise each day in confident faith, and draw you to His Holy Eucharist with his Holy People!



## **SPONSORSHIPS-MANY ARE NEEDED!**

### **Jan. Bulletin Sponsors:**

4-  
11-  
18-Margie Lehman: In honor of Eppie Lehman  
25-

### **Feb. Bulletin Sponsors:**

1-Dale & Arlene Feidt: In memory of Herbert, Cora & Barbara Buffington  
8-  
15-Michael Paul: In celebration of Dave's (his Dad) birthday. HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAD!  
18-(Ash Wed.)  
22-

### **Newsletter Sponsors:**

Jan/Feb – Stan & Arleah Buehler: In celebration of the New 2015 Year.  
Mar/Apr –

### **Fellowship:**

Jan. 11-  
Feb. 8 –

### **Sanctuary Lamp:**

Jan. – Dale & Arlene Feidt: In memory of her mother, Dorothy Wolfgang, her sister Eleanor Clover and their son, Brian.  
Feb. –

**From the Council:** Please consider a New Year contribution to your church to help bridge the gap between the budget and actual contribution. Although we are able to continue keeping expenses under budget, there are shortfalls every year. Your contribution ensures the ministry of this church continues. We have been exploring many options to boost our income from investments. However, your church needs regular giving to be able to continue each needed ministry. No staff raises were given since 2012 because of this shortage.



**Jan. Altar Guild –**

Rachel Zimmerman and Jill Liles

**Sunday, Jan. 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

Lector: Michael Paul  
Head Usher: Fred Renn  
Communion Assistant: Chris Paul  
Greeters:  
Acolyte: Jessica Spacek

**Sunday, Jan. 11 – BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**FELLOWSHIP: Sponsor(s) Needed**

Lector: Carol Reitz  
Head Usher: Dave Reiner  
Communion Assistant: Tom Scheib  
Greeters: Judy Paul and Ann Scatena  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**Sunday, Jan. 18 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

Lector: Rachel Deitrich  
Head Usher: Linda Deibler  
Communion Assistant: Rachel Deitrich  
Greeters: Harold & Marie Daub  
Acolyte: Tyler Miller

**Sunday, Jan. 25 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

Lector: Dennis Reitz  
Head Usher: Jim Prince  
Communion Assistant: Dennis Reitz  
Greeters: Rachel Zimmerman and Jill Liles  
Acolyte: Jessica Spacek

**Monday, Jan. 26 – Evening Service of Holy**

**Communion** *Confession of Peter, Conversion of Paul*

Lector: Michael Paul  
Communion Assistant: Chris Paul  
Acolyte: Michael Paul

**Greeters will be assigned from the office, unless someone has signed up for that particular Sunday. (See Chris with any questions or concerns.)**

**January Altar Flowers**

4- Henry & Marlene Leshner –  
In honor of Robin's birthday.  
11-Stan & Arleah Buehler –  
In memory of loved ones.  
18-Mabel Weida – In memory of loved ones.  
25-The Lehman Family-In honor of Eppie's birthday.

**Feb. Altar Guild –**

Arleah Buehler & ***Assistant Needed!***

**Sunday, February 1 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

Lector: Ken Campbell  
Head Usher: Chris Paul  
Communion Assistant: Mark Ingbritsen  
Greeters: Janice Gransbury and Ben Cunningham  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**Sunday, February 8 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**FELLOWSHIP: Sponsor(s) Needed**

Lector: Tom Scheib  
Head Usher: Mark Ingbritsen  
Communion Assistant: Chris Paul  
Greeters: Dave Reiner & Margie Lehman  
Acolyte: Tyler Miller

**Sunday, February 15 – TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

Lector: Margie Lehman  
Head Usher: Scott Deitrich  
Communion Assistant: Tom Scheib  
Greeters: Diane Heim and Jana Miller  
Acolyte: Jessica Spacek

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lector: Michael Paul  
Head Usher: Chris Paul  
Communion Assistant: Dennis Reitz  
Greeters: Chris and Michael Paul  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**Sunday, February 22 – 1st SUNDAY IN LENT**

Lector: Rich Keeney  
Head Usher: Arleah Buehler  
Communion Assistant: Rachel Deitrich  
Greeters: Margie Lehman and Martha Fulkrod  
Acolyte: Kyle Ramer

**February Altar Flowers**

1-Ruth and Chris Cook – In honor of family & friends.  
8-Charles & Jill Liles  
15-Dale & Arlene Feidt – In memory of Barbara, Cora and Herbert Buffington.  
18-(Ash Wed.) Chris and Michael Paul – In honor of Dave's birthday.  
22-Martha Jane Fulkrod Family and Tom Hain Family – In memory of Norman & "Sue" M.E. Hain.

Salem Lutheran – Sundays Holy Communion at 9AM Check the website for updated CALENDAR

## Salem Lutheran Church

[www.salemlutheranelizabethville.org](http://www.salemlutheranelizabethville.org)

At the Congregational Meeting on December 28<sup>th</sup> the congregation voted unanimously to affiliate with the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). A ratification of this vote will take place to formalize the process of affiliation after 90 days. The members of Salem Lutheran have met with the NALC several times and are confident of this move in the direction of renewed faith and connectivity. The NALC is Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused. To learn more go to [www.thenalc.org](http://www.thenalc.org)

Our local dean is Pr. Luke Seamon, a colleague of Pr. Nathan's and a member of the Society of the Holy Trinity, is pastor of Reformation Lutheran Church, Landisville, PA. We look forward to this new family of sisters and brother in Christ as we work together for traditional orthodox Lutheran faith, which is always guided and directed by the Word of God among his people.



# NALC

North American Lutheran Church

Pr. Nathan will be on a second pilgrimage to the Holy Land in late February and early March. Having been selected to lead the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage program, which has been sending ordained ministers free of charge to the Holy Land for over 30 years, into the coming years he will surely be able to continue sharing these experiences with us at Salem. A real honor for him for which we are proud to support!



Dated Material – Please do not delay  
Address Service Requested

The Rev. Nathan Corl Minnich, STS, Pastor  
salemlutheranelizabethville@gmail.com

205 W. Main Street  
PO Box 427  
Elizabethville, PA 17023  
717-362-9222

Salem Lutheran Church

