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## CLIENT STORIES

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# Salem English Lutheran Church **saves time and money** paying employees with OnPay

For Salem English Lutheran Church, building a thriving faith community begins with efficient operations and transparent payroll costs.



## HOW IT ALL STARTED

# Building an inclusive community rooted in faith and open to all

Salem English Lutheran Church has welcomed worshippers from diverse backgrounds since 1890 and was one of the first Lutheran congregations west of Chicago to use English as its primary language. In 2006, church leaders decided to close its doors and reimagine its ministry, joining forces with Lyndale United Church of Christ and, later, First Christian Church to form the SpringHouse Ministry Center.

The shared community space continues to thrive today, sharing a renewed spirit of faith and community engagement.



### ABOUT THE CLIENT

## Salem English Lutheran Church

**Where:** Minneapolis, MN

**Company Size:** 5+ employees

**Client Industry:** House of worship | Church

**Joined OnPay:** March 2014

***Salem Lutheran English Church needed payroll software they could trust without breaking the bank. OnPay delivered a smooth transition, streamlining their payroll and backing it up with exceptional customer support.***

The screenshot shows the OnPay dashboard for a user named Michelle. The interface includes a sidebar with navigation links: Dashboard, Workers, Payroll, Reports, Filings, HR, Time, Benefits, and Company. The main content area displays a greeting "Good evening, Michelle" and four worker profile cards: Marissa Richards, Douglas Riddle, Eliana Dennis, and Jessica Foley, each with a circular profile picture and a plus icon for adding more workers. Below the profiles are three main sections: "Recent pay run" showing "Feb 1st" with buttons for "SUMMARY" and "CHECKS"; "Pay schedule" showing a calendar for February with dates 6, 10, 22, and 23 highlighted; and "Next pay run" showing "Feb 5th" with a "START RUN" button and "Bi-Weekly" frequency.



## THE CHALLENGE

# Making payroll simpler and more affordable

Like many small businesses, Salem kept a close eye on the bottom line. When Laurie joined as an office administrator, the church was using a well-known payroll provider. However, as costs started to creep up, it made sense to start shopping around — especially since there were countless added fees for services they were not even using. Plus, customer support always seemed to come up short when Salem's team had questions or needed assistance with tax filings.

Their priorities were clear: they needed reliable customer support, accurate tax management, and a solution to fit their budget.

At the top of their list of “must-haves” were:

- ✓ An affordable online solution with accessible customer support and no hidden fees
- ✓ Software that accommodates part-time staff with varying schedules and pay rates
- ✓ Automated tax deductions with simple Social Security and Medicare (FICA) exemptions for clergy members

## With OnPay, Salem English Lutheran Church:



Gets payroll and admin tasks done in **60 minutes or less** each month



Stays compliant with **automated tax filings and FICA exemptions for clergy**



**Cut payroll costs and gained predictability** with clear monthly pricing

## THE CHALLENGE

# Saving time and money with the OnPay x TechSoup network

The team researched OnPay's features and pricing with TechSoup, a marketplace of vendors and resources for nonprofits. After talking with OnPay customer support, it was clear that they had found a vendor they could rely on without breaking the budget. Once onboarding was complete, Laurie took over the bookkeeping.

Since switching to OnPay, Salem has cut payroll costs in half, while payroll processing now takes Laurie an hour or less each month. Staffers benefit too, with direct access to their own pay stubs through self-service employee accounts. Plus, OnPay automates all tax filings, payments, and special FICA exemptions for clergy members, making it a true convenience for the organization. More than just user-friendly, OnPay delivers reliable support that feels like a true partnership, allowing Salem to focus on what they do best — creating a welcoming space for all who seek refuge in faith.



*"OnPay is a great service for a small organization, with helpful customer service and good pricing."*

**Laurie Z.,**

Salem Lutheran English Church

**For more information:**  
[onpay.com](https://onpay.com)

