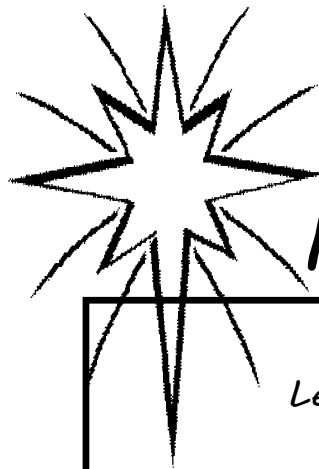


The
Salem
Star

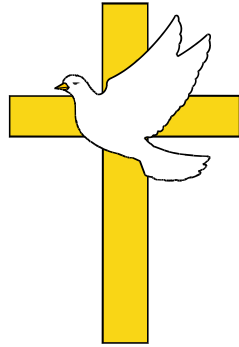
2101 N. Virginia St.
Port Lavaca, TX 77979



MAY 2019

*Pastor's Corner
Letter From Pastor -
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!*

*Sunday, May 12, 2019
Senior Sending
Mother's Day!*



Salem Lutheran Church

"Sharing the love of Christ"

2101 N. Virginia St.
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979
361-552-9379
sharonwiggins99@gmail.com
secretary@salemportlavaca.org

Transitional Pastor	Pastor Sharon Wiggins	512-773-6356
Office Manager	Terri Malaer	920-4013
Financial Secretary	Kristel Knipling	552-2263
Choir Director	Altus Aschen	552-3085
Organists	Altus Aschen	552-3085
	Linda Hahn	552-1971
	William Hahn, Jr.	552-7750
	Kathy Riske	484-0835
Prayer Ministry	Jennifer Hahn	676-7348
Clothing God's Children		
	Lorie Paul	874-4213
Altar Guild Leader	Retha Hahn	920-1248

Executive Council

President	Mike Rothmann	552-6893
Vice President	Joel Anderson	882-6872
Secretary	Lindy Cain	773-576-7845
Treasurer	Cathy Hahn	552-5100

Council Ministry Teams

Proclaim	Clairce Thiede	281-685-7409
Nurture	Dottie Caldwell	571-0668
Response	Wanda Hahn	676-2046
Property	Retha Hahn	920-1248

Pastor's Corner

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lorde has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

These words resounded in Salem Lutheran Church on Easter morning. The Ark that is our Sanctuary rose so high I think it was probably hovering over the water like the voice of God on the first day of creation. We knew, we knew for sure, that the temple curtain had been torn in two—from the top to the bottom—Christ had risen indeed, we were in the presence of the Living God, and the Holy Spirit was filling our hearts. What a beautiful thing it is to be with your brothers and sisters on an Easter morning singing alleluias, cracking confetti eggs, and filling the place with showers of blessings.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter is so special that we celebrate for a whole week of Sundays—all the way to Pentecost. And be sure and mark your calendar for that date which this year falls on June 9th. I have been hearing rumors about something very special happening on that Sunday and I know you will not want to miss it. But before I get ahead of myself here.

Holy Week and Easter—what just happened? What did Jesus do *TO* us when he got up, took off his cloak, put a towel around his waist, filled the basin with water and started washing the feet of his disciples? We tend to talk a lot more about what Jesus did *FOR* us than what he did *TO* us during Holy Week and Easter.

We all know what he did *FOR* us—he died *FOR* our sins, paid the price *FOR* us, a price we could not pay ourselves. He died *FOR* us so that we might live. We spend a lot of time talking or thinking about something called atonement and exactly what that might mean.

It is a big theological word that covers many ideas and theories. I am not sure what it means. Other than, that I do not need to worry about not being adequate to earn God's favor—I do not have to do anything like that. Because, whatever I might want to call it, it has already been taken care of. It is covered by God's grace.

On the Cross, God's love and grace came down to earth, and it flowed through the out stretched arms of Jesus as he hung there. It flowed out to each and everyone of us. And, as we said on Easter Sunday, when we deny our self, take up our cross and follow Jesus all the way through Holy Week and into the resurrection, we get up on that cross and we look at the world the way God looks at the creation and it is good, it is very good.

From that vantage point, with our arms outstretched, facing the world, right there where the vertical transcendence and the horizontal immanence of God come together, our heart meets the heart of God. And, there, we know what he has done *TO* us.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Peace and blessings
Pastor Wiggins





Two Delegates for Synod Assembly!
May 31 — June 2, 2019
Omni Bayfront, Corpus Christi

It was evening on the first Easter and two men who had followed Jesus into Jerusalem were leaving to return home. It had been a few days now since the crucifixion. There were rumors, but nothing substantial—just some stories some women were spreading. They shared this with the clueless stranger they met on the road out of town. Then the stranger said, “But, of course, don’t you know the scriptures?” And he had gotten real talkative and shred lots of scripture with them.

Then at dinner, the stranger blessed the bread, broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened! And, he vanished. We should have known, they said to each other, “were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road...”

And, that gets us to the theme for this years Assembly:
“Open Eyes, Burning Hearts”

It is in the coming together and in the breaking and sharing of the bread that Jesus is made known to us. The purpose statement of our Synod is “God’s grace transforms and connects us to learn, to love, to lead.”

Learning that leads to “Open Eyes, Burning Hearts” is the main emphasis at this year’s Synod Assembly. There will be many workshops to chose from with learning to bring back to the congregation. And also business to conduct, worship to share and inspire, and a chance to get to know our new Bishop a little better.

Please give some prayerful thought to this and let the Council or Pastor know if you will be able to go. Or, you can just let Terri know in the office and she will get the message to where it needs to go.

We need to be getting hotel reservations ASAP! So, please let the Council know as soon as possible. It is usually a married couple, but it does not have to be. Also, it is often possible to get permission to have two men or two women delegates. But time is a’wasting.

Peace and blessings, Pastor Wiggins

May Announcements

The church office will be closed on Monday,
May 27th for Memorial Day.

Thank you to everyone who
worked so hard to make
Holy Week and Easter Sunday
so very, very inspirational.



Adult Sunday School will begin the study of the
Book of Revelation on May 5th. Pastor Wiggins
will be leading the class. We will have an intro-
ductory overview and discuss format and length
of the study.



The Bluebonnet Conference will have its Spring
Assembly Sunday, May 5th at St. James Lutheran
Church, 900 South 3rd Street, Ganado, Texas
77962. Registration begins at 2:30pm with our
meeting at 3:00pm.

Chancel Choir Schedule

May 1st - Rehearsal 7:00PM

May 5th- Rehearsal 7:00PM

May 12th - Worship

May 15th - Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

May 22nd - Rehearsal 7:00PM

May 26th - Worship

Break for summer!



CHOIR NOTES



Haley Bales, daughter of Jason Bales and Jeanette Bales and granddaughter of Steve and Pam Bales, is OUR 2019 Graduating High School Senior.

We will be holding a Senior Sending in her honor on May 12, 2019 during Salem's worship service and then hosting a cake and punch reception afterwards!

Please come and join us and help Haley celebrate her accomplishments.



CAROLINE O'DONNELL, DAUGHTER OF MIKE AND BRITTNEY ROTHMANN, HAS BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE THROUGH A PROGRAM CALLED RSVBEE.

SINCE SHE IS NOT SPONSORED, WE ARE TRYING TO DEFRAY SOME OF THE \$5,000 COST FOR HER TO PARTICIPATE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE OR IF YOU KNOW OF A

LOCAL BUSINESS THAT MIGHT BE WILLING TO SPONSOR PART OF HER TRIP, PLEASE VISIT HER GO FUND ME PAGE. ANY CONTRIBUTION IS A BLESSING!

www.gofundme.com

Search: Caroline O'Donnell's National Spelling Bee Journey

link: https://www.gofundme.com/caroline-odonnells-national-bee-spelling-journey&rcid=r01-155662982434-4b5004dd041e4e1e&pc=ot_co_campmgmt_w

Old Fashioned House Pounding!

at the new home of Rob & Lorena Barjenbruch

Saturday, May 18, 2019

3:00 'til 7:00PM

361 Bischoff

Inez, Texas 77968

*home
& sweet
home*

*home
& sweet
home*

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting April 8, 2019

Attendees: Lindy Cain, Cathy Hahn, Debbie Martin, Wanda Hahn, Retha Hahn, Joel Anderson, and interim Pastor Wiggins

Devotional- Joel Anderson – John 4:34

Prayer and Concerns – Gabrielle Rodriquez, 19 year-old daughter of the gentleman who did all of our new concrete work here at Salem, diagnosed with thyroid cancer and heart issues.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting – Lindy 1st Retha 2nd
Reports:

Treasurer-\$9000 in the black! All expenses are about the same. Cathy and interim Pastor Wiggins (also a CPA) plan to sit down together and organize the books.

Pastor – Pre-assembly meeting coming up in May. Synod assembly meeting this year has a lot of changes in store for those who are in attendance.

Proclaim – Clarice was not able to attend this meeting.

Nurture – Interim Pastor Wiggins is going to lead the book of Revelations in Adult Sunday school. We have several potential 6th graders next year for the proposed monthly event at Trinity Lutheran in Victoria. There was much discussion about confirmation for the kids. It was decided to do it next year when we will have a larger group of students old enough to participate.

Response – June 9th is Pentecost Sunday and Wanda is trying to get all to wear red that day and possibly have a big Pot Luck lunch.

Property – The steps from the walkway to the parking lot are being replaced. An ADA ramp will be placed on one side with steps on the other. New handrails will be installed on each side going all the way to the brick columns and in the center just between the steps and ramp.

We will be assessing each of our four buildings to determine the best place to shelter during violent weather, i.e. tornadoes, etc. This information will then be shared and clearly posted.

We still have a leak from the church steeple. Will attempt to get it stopped prior to hurricane season. We are still waiting on a bid for new gutters.

Work continues on installation of LED lights in the education building.
We will also replace the fluorescent lights in the choir loft and sacristy.

Old Business – The Call Process committee had its first meeting and it went really well.

New Business – The delegates elected by the Congregation will not be able to attend. The Council is calling a Congregational Meeting for April 28th to either: 1. Elect two other delegates, 2. Give the Council permission to appoint two delegates to the synod assembly.

Calendar: Approved for May

Closing Prayer – All The Lord's Prayer

Motion to Adjourn: Retha 1st, Lindy 2nd



Next SLC Council Meeting -
Monday, May 13th at **5:30PM.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

<i>Income/Expenditure Chart (Rounded off to nearest dollar)</i>					
	Income	Expenses	Budget	Month Gain (Loss)	Year Gain (Loss)
Dec. 31, 2018 Balance					\$ (1,065.00)
January	\$ 13,640.00	\$ 11,563.00	\$ 21,161.00	\$ 2,077.00	\$ 1,012.00
February	\$ 15,126.00	\$ 12,114.00	\$ 21,161.00	\$ 3,012.00	\$ 4,024.00
March	\$ 15,855.00	\$ 10,529.00	\$ 21,161.00	\$ 5,326.00	\$ 9,350.00

*April's offering totaled \$ 13,140.97
We collected \$2524.40 for The Quilt Angels!*

STANDING STRONG THROUGH THE STORM

Religious Freedom

(This is an excerpt from *Open Doors* dated April 23, 2019)

Ron Boyd-MacMillian concludes his two-part analysis of religious freedom in our country:

It was a persecuted Christian in the Middle East who gave me the eyes to see that religious freedom always needs protecting, wherever one is.

“Freedom is fragile,” she said. “Religious freedom is not about having the right laws to protect belief—that’s a myth put out by the human rights community. No, religious freedom is protected not by laws, but by a climate of respect and openness that ensures the laws are correctly applied. A toleration law, for example, can be used for or against Christians. Christians always have to fight to ensure the climate is tolerant.”

She added, “I don’t care what country or state you live in; you also live in a culture that hates Christ. That’s your fight, and every Christian on the earth has the same fight, whether you belong to a so-called Christian society or not.”

She was right. A climate of prejudice against Christians has crept up by stealth in Western cultures, even in apparently Christian ones. We are in a battle in our own backyard. Thank you, Persecuted Church, for awakening me to the fight!

As Ron writes, we are in a battle even at home. It doesn’t take much insight—or even imagination—to assess the direction of the moral slide in our free societies, especially in the Western world. Biblical values are disappearing and secular philosophies with a pseudo-biblical aura are fast taking their place.

As I’ve travelled and spoken in Western countries, it is not uncommon to have folk share with me how they lost their employment because of their faith. They had not been obnoxious nor spending company time witnessing. They had simply expressed their support for biblical principles that were being violated. Jesus warns in our Scripture today that this treatment is because of His name. Let’s make sure that it is not because we refuse to be His salt and light.

"Sharing the Love of Christ"

ATTENDANCE:

SUNDAYS of April:	<u>07</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>28</u>
Worship Service:	66	72	122	54

April's Welcomed Visitors:

April 7, 2019:

Kayla & Iris Boyd-Robertson

April 14, 2019:



April 21, 2019:

Kayla & Iris Boyd-Robertson

Debra Harabis

Jeff, Kyleigh & Laina Kolos

Serenity & Aaron Ray Oliphant

Shannon Spree

Karen Sturm

Eddie & Dorothy Witt

April 29, 2018:

Ronny & Darla Dentler

Richard & Cheryl Johnson

..... Happy Anniversary in May to:

May 3rd: Lynn & Cathy Hahn

May 14th: Walter & Wanda Hahn



H B D
A I A
P R Y
P T
Y H

May 4th: Jacob Ham

May 8th: Dallas Sparks

May 10th: Ashley Anderson

May 10th: Karla Rothmann

May 13th: Jared Awalt

May 13th: Layla Myers

May 22nd: Sandra Ruddick

May 25th: Kayla Boyd-Robertson

May 31st: Keith Ueckert

In order to keep track of our members and their unfolding need for prayers and support, we have to rely on you and your family members to keep us updated. Please call the church office at 361-552-9379 or me on my cell at 361-652-3214 when there is a change in your or your loved one's condition or treatment plan. That includes when surgery is scheduled and especially when you return home. Making sure your family members have these phone numbers as well.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Dan

ANSWERED PRAYERS:

NEW PRAYER CONCERNS:

Gabrielle Rodriguez	Joyce Schaefer	Todd Kelm
Camille Flisowski	Dorothy Caraway	Sandra Ruddick
Vera Hahn	Geri Caraway	Leroy Hahn
Dustin Caraway	Cindy Schneider	

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Karen Fowler	John Mills	Rita Boudreaux
Candice Harabis	Lloyd Bales	Fred Knipling
Buddy Winder		
Wynde Albrecht Pustejovsky		

BROOKEDALE RESIDENT:

Ruth Hahn

PORT LAVACA NURSING HOME RESIDENTS:

Annie Halliburton
Annette Ueckert

TODAY'S ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENT:

Betty Sue Kupatt

TRINITY SHORE RESIDENT:

Sonny Gottschalt

VITALITY COURT RESIDENT:

Nelson Marek

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY:

Shaughnessy Howell - Tripler AMC, Honolulu
Zane Williams (grandson Buddy and Lucille Winder)
Joe Workman (nephew of Kay Ham)

THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES:

