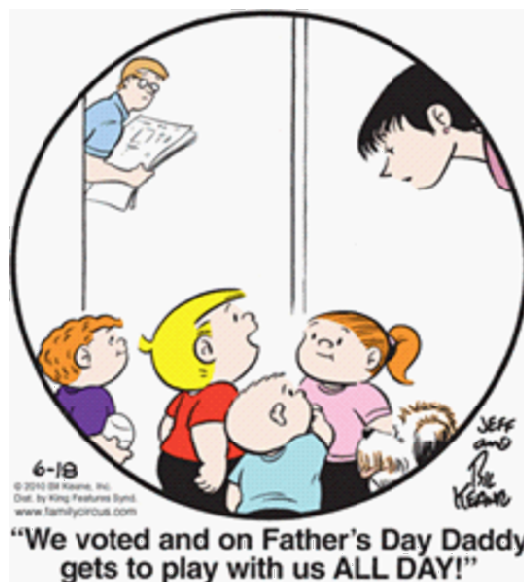
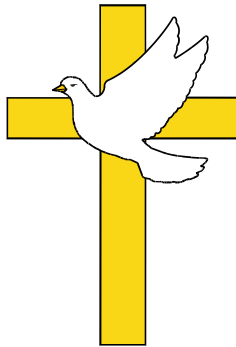


Salem Lutheran Church
2101 North Virginia
Port Lavaca, Tx 77979
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

June 2019

**Happy
Father'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 | | |
| 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 | Debbie Martin | 920-9851 |
| Response | Wanda Hahn | 676-2046 |
| Property | Retha Hahn | 920-1248 |

Pastor's Corner

"Could I have some onion with that?"

Shortages of onions and cooking oil have threatened and even toppled governments. I don't remember which Asian or maybe African country it was, maybe one of you can help me out with that, but one of them within the last ten years had problems because of a shortage of onions. It might even have been India. It was India, in 2010—googled it.

And the Shah of Iran was finally toppled because of a lack of cooking oil. When the women had no cooking oil, they took to the streets. The army would not fire on them because they were their mothers, wives, grandmothers, sisters. So, the next thing we knew the Shah was in Egypt being treated for cancer and the Allyatola was in charge in Iran. All because there was no oil to cook the onions.

At least that is the way I always heard it. But after some more googling—I think I might not have heard it right. But, none the less, the way I always heard the story is what has shaped my world. And all the stories of a non-violent revolution and the mothers and grandmothers facing their sons and grandsons in the streets has appealed to me. Just as the stories of the bloodless revolution in the Philippines shortly after that. Neither one of them had a particularly good outcome which gives me pause to think.

But how long did it take the Hebrew children wandering in the desert to start complaining? Here again, my fond memories may be shaped by something other than the facts. The Israelites started complaining about the food a couple of months after crossing through the Red Sea. "Why did you bring us out here? Just so we could starve to death? In Egypt we had meat and plenty of bread to eat." And I always added onions and leeks to what they had to eat. Onions and leeks. I am not sure why they stick in my mind, but it was two years and into Numbers before they complained about lack of onions and leeks and melons.

This was all brought to mind this morning because the subject of Food Pantries and the variety of things one might find came up and reminded me of the woman asking, quietly, hesitantly as though she might be asking for too much, "Could I have some onion with that?"

I had answered the phone and a woman was asking for food assistance. She gave me her grocery list. I went to town got her groceries and took them to her at a motel sort of place. She started by asking for cereal and milk for her kids. We talked about what kind of cereal they would like. Then there was peanut butter and a loaf of bread and some rice and a little meat. After a moment there was, "could I have some onion with that?"

I don't know if she called different people every week with her list of needs or if that was a onetime need. I do not know what happened to her or her children who liked cereal and peanut butter. What I do know is that she had the nicest onion I could find in the grocery store. And has my prayers that she always some onion and all the cooking oil she needs.

May you always have some onion and a little to spare. And all the cooking oil you need.

Peace and blessings
Pastor Wiggins





COME ONE,
COME ALL!

June 9, 2019

Bring a friend, or two or three
for the Celebration of Pentecost
during our worship service.
Stay for coffee, cookies and
special activities for all ages
during the Sunday School hour
followed by a “Pot-Luck” lunch dinner.
Oh- almost forgot - wear RED!

Food questions? Talk to Janice Marek
Other questions? Talk to Wanda Hahn



REMEMBER:
Chancel Choir is on rest
during the summer.

Announcements



June 2, 2019

**Special Called Congregational Meeting in
the Sanctuary immediately following
worship.**



Dear Ladies,
My friend Mr. Sanders brought me a shawl that you all made. There are not enough words to say thank you. I use it when I go to treatments, the doctor and church. I have Stage 4 breast cancer and I'm always cold. When my time comes I will take it with me to see our Lord. Thank you all so very much.

God Bless each and everyone,
Yours in Christ, Mary Torres

What a blessing you have given to share with so many people who are going through a rough time in their lives. The quilts we give them hopefully comforts in their healing process. Such a wonderful gift has made it possible to purchase batting, needles, thread, cutting blades, fabric, etc. for us ladies to put these quilts together. We usually operate on a shoestring budget but with your generous donation we are able to purchase a few much needed items such as a new iron and sewing machine repairs. Each quilt is made with love and joy and we willingly met each Tuesday morning to sew. Thank you again for helping us help others.

The Quilt Angels



FROM THE ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:

While we were reading the letter to the angels of the seven churches in the beginning of Revelation, we wondered what the letter to the Angel of Salem would have said.

Well, while we thought about it – here are two possibilities.

We encourage you to read the first three chapters of Revelation and let us know what you think the letter would say.

After worship, grab a cup of coffee and a cookie and join us. You are always welcome.

To the Angel of the church of Salem:

There are the word of the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, I was dead but I am alive!

I know your deeds, your perseverance, your generosity and your welcome-ness. Your love of community, your generosity to others and to your members. Over the years you have been tested, you have struggled with finances, facilities, with each other, yet you have persevered for more than 117 years.

But somehow, over the last 117 years you have lost the zeal of the first baby steps in your faith. You have become complacent. You became too comfortable in your situation as a congregation. You have become blinded to the needs of others. You have not obeyed my “Great Commission” of making disciples of all people, in your community, on your world. Do this and you will overcome this life, and I will give you the crown of life.

+++++

Angel to the Church of Salem:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven lamp stands: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance, generosity and thinking of others.

This is what I have against you:

You are unsure in your abilities and gifts in taking the Gospel to the lost. It has made you focus on your deeds and not spreading the Word. Yet you have many who are eager to provide spiritual food for the lost in addition to physical food.

Hold onto what you have so no one will take your crown. Be faithful even unto the point of death and I will give you the crown on life.



Every year on May 22nd we pause to honor those who serve at sea and those lost at sea. This date has already past, but we can still stop and take time to do this, as We participate in a global economy and worldwide interdependence. The vast majority of goods traded between nations is transported by merchant vessels crewed by men who sacrifice so much of a normal life.

Jesus must have a special place in His heart for seafarers, as He chose men of the sea as His first apostles, Andrew, Peter, James and John.

Seven reasons we thank seafarers:

1. They run the global economy
2. They sacrifice their family and social life
3. Seafarers' job is a dangerous one
(toughest seas and roughest weather)
4. Seafarers risk their lives. (Danger of piracy and war zones)
5. Seafarers risk their health (they are prone to many diseases, injuries, and psychological problems. On ship there is no doctor or hospital)
6. Seafarers follow toughest laws. (They need to know many regulations related to ships around the world)
7. Their work is monotonous routines (they spend most of their time running ships and machinery and don't get to see the places of the world where they travel)

Please set aside time to pray for these men and their families. Pray especially for those who come into our port and for all who make their living on the sea.

Remember- when you hear of severe weather coming your way, DONT PRAY THAT THE STORM GOES OUT TO SEA.

Our church has a ministry to seafarers. If you would like to contribute to Ruthie Boyd-Robertson has the address to the ministry in Savannah, GA, and you can contact ELCA for others.

STANDING STRONG THROUGH THE STORM

I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one. 1 John 2:14b

Persecution Can Happen Here

Colleague Ron Boyd-MacMillan recounts an interesting experience in China:

There's a house church in Beijing I like to take my friends to visit. The members are all young professionals, about twenty of them, and they meet in a huge, darkened, open-plan office at midnight once a week. It's totally illegal. Some of them are quite high ranking members of the communist party. If their faith is discovered, it would end their careers ...or worse.

At the beginning of each meeting, the leader goes round and asks each member this question – the most challenging question I've ever heard in church: What are your wounds for Christ this week?

On one occasion I had brought two pastor friends, and the same question—through translation—was put to each of them. They replied, “Oh, we are not wounded or persecuted, you see, we live in Britain, where we have religious freedom, and we are so grateful for that!”

This reply was greeted with uncomprehending silence by the Chinese house church. Then a young woman spoke up, and without a trace of irony asked, “You mean, they don't let the devil into Britain?”

The house church leader patiently explained to the visitors their biblical understanding of persecution. “In the Bible, to be persecuted means to be pursued by the enemies of Christ. When we become a Christian, his enemies become our enemies, and we are pitched into a battle with the world and the devil, and this fight will draw wounds. So it doesn't matter whether you are in Beijing or Birmingham, the fight is the same, only the degree and type of suffering may differ. You're going to get pursued...that's persecution.”

“But we thought persecution was legal discrimination, or being put into jail for one's faith” replied the pastors. The house church leader answered, “That's the extreme tip of it. Look, we may not sit on the same thorn, but we all sit on the same branch.”

Still the pastors did not look convinced. Another Chinese member said, “If you don't have wounds for Christ, how do you know you are alive in Christ? Wounds bring joy, because then you know you are making a difference.”

This struck a chord with the visitors. As preachers, they knew that nothing communicates like joy. That's why Persecuted Churches are growing churches—they are alive in Christ, and they know it because they have wounds! So find the source of resistance to the gospel in your local area, and when you apply the gospel, watch the fight begin.

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 13, 2019

Attendees:

Mike Rothmann, Joel Anderson, Pastor Sharon Wiggins, Debbie Martin, Clarice Thiede, Wanda Hahn and Retha Hahn.

Devotional: Pastor Wiggins – Council read and discussed a passage from Jeremiah 29. Debbie Martin volunteered to do the devotional next month.

Prayer Concerns: Pastor Wiggins' face pain.

Approval of agenda: Retha 1st Clarice 2nd; agenda was approved.

Approval of minutes from previous meeting: Joel 1st Wanda 2nd; minutes were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer – Cathy was not in attendance, but the council reviewed expenses verses income.

Pastor – Pastor Wiggins reported on the Bluebonnet Conference meeting. The Conference has budgeted \$1000 for Language Emersion training (concentrating on Spanish) and The Cleopas Experience Lutheran Retreat. Vicar Sergio Rodriguez has begun work on several cross-cultural projects. More information will be provided as available on these efforts as available.

Proclaim – Lorie Paul has resigned as the Clothing God's Children coordinator. We will be seeking a new coordinator for that very important ministry. It was agreed that communion service will be changed to start at the center of the altar.

Nurture – We will be looking for a new option for children's Sunday school to better accommodate the few children that we have.

Response – June 9th is Pentecost. A special service, with a pot-luck dinner and intergenerational activities to follow. All are encouraged to wear red.

Property – The steps from the walkway to the parking lot have been replaced. 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 the ramp. We have received a bid from Master Construction to put new gutters on the office building and Fellowship Hall, and to extend the gutters on the sanctuary to the end of the building by the office. The proposal is for \$900.

Old Business:

The call committee received the packet from the Synod office with the information forms that will need to be completed by the committee. They have begun completing the packet sections. Walter Hahn may need to resign from the committee for work reasons. The motion was made by Mike and seconded by Joel that Jennifer Hahn be nominated to replace Walter at a special called congregational meeting. Motion carried. The meeting will be set for June 2nd. Other nominations may be taken from the floor at that meeting.

Virginia Hahn and Clarice Thiede have volunteered to represent Salem at the Synod Assembly. The motion was made by Joel and seconded by Retha to install them as the new delegates. Motion carried. Since congregations of our size are allowed one male and one female delegate, Pastor will be requesting that we be approved to have two female voting members.

New Business:

We will need to prepare minutes from the congregational meeting held on April 28th.

Council took a few minutes to review council members' duties as they apply to communion and securing the offering on Sundays.

The continuation of the Fall Festival was discussed. Last year's polka service was such a big success that we will pursue doing that again. Joel will be contacting the polka band from Shiner to see if they have any available Sundays in the fall.

The Endowment Fund committee recommended the quarterly distributions be made in the amount of \$350 each to the Wycliffe Bible Translators and the ELCA Disaster Relief. Joel made the motion and Clarice seconded it to accept the committee's recommendation. Motion carried.

Calendar: The special congregational meeting for June 2nd will need to be added to the calendar.

Closing Prayer: All - The Lord's Prayer

Motion to Adjourn: Joel 1st, Mike 2nd

Dates to Remember: June 2nd Congregational Meeting; June 9th Pentecost Sunday

Notes: Terri will be out of the office the week of July 1st.

Respectfully submitted,
Retha Hahn, Properties Coordinator



Treasurer's Report

A full report was not available for the newsletter, but May's offering totaled \$12,830.91

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Report of the Endowment Fund Distributions

During January the MissionPlus account was closed and the funds were deposited into Salem's bank account. In February the Endowment Committee recommended that the available funds be distributed as follows:

- Local Social Ministry - \$1100
- Sunday Church School - \$852
- Lutheran Bible Translators - \$500
- Lutheran School in Beit Sahour - \$600
- Lutheran World Project of Building Greenhouses in Syria - \$500
(<https://lwr.org/story-hub/greenhouses-unite-syrian-refugees-lebanese-farmers#.XOb7QnzcPKk.email>)

These funds came the December distribution of the Clara Knipling Memorial Endowment Fund and were distributed in accordance with the guidelines.

On April 2, 2019, Salem received \$1627.06 from the Clara Knipling Memorial Endowment. The Endowment Committee recommended that funds be made available as follows:

- Local Social Ministry - \$366
- Sunday Church School - \$366
- Wycliff Bible Translators - \$350
(Printing of Bibles in the native languages of people in Arabian Peninsula.)
- ELCA Disaster Relief - \$350

The \$9000 authorized by the Annual Congregational Meeting was added to the Salem Lutheran Memorial Mission Endowment Fund savings account. This fund must have assets of more than \$25,000 before distributions can be received.



Happy Birthday in June to:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Ashley Hahn: | June 2nd |
| James Durham: | June 4th |
| Lorena Barjenbruch: | June 6th |
| Margaret Gosnell: | June 6th |
| Sonny Gottschalt: | June 6th |
| Bryan Tschatschula: | June 10th |
| John Barjenbruch: | June 12th |
| Paul Kelm | June 18th |
| Justin Boyd: | June 24th |
| Dianna Hahn: | June 26th |
| Melba Tanner: | June 28th |
| Clay Bates: | June 29th |

Happy Anniversary in June to:

| | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| June 7th: | Clint & Laurel Myers |
| June 7th: | Bill & Dianna Sturm |
| June 18th: | Damon & Martha Vickery |
| June 29th: | Bobby & Retha Hahn |
| June 30th: | William & Virginia Hahn |



*If your birthday and/or anniversary is not printed in the newsletter,
please call the church office.*



"Sharing the Love of Christ"
ATTENDANCE:

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|
| SUNDAYS of May: | 05 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Worship Service: | 66 | 79 | 57 | 67 |



May 5, 2019:

Darrin Albrecht
Kayla & Iris Boyd-Robertson
Tommy May
Marybelle Perez

May 12, 2019:

Kayla & Iris Boyd-Robertson
Debra Harabis
Danial Mueller
Serenity & Aaron Oliphant
Kay Sevick
Eddie & Dorothy Witt

May 19, 2019:

Ronny & Darla Dentler

May 26, 2016:

Cheryl Billo
Ken & Debbie Eilers
Bonnie Pierson

Some
SUPER Heroes
have
capas...
they are
called **DAD.**

For Father's Day
I gave my dad \$100
and said

"Go buy something
that will make
your life easier."

So, he bought a present
for my mother.

Happy Father's Day
June 16, 2019

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 Pastor Wiggins at 512-773-6356 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.

ANSWERED PRAYERS:



Remember in your prayers

NEW PRAYER CONCERNS:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Waymon Boyd | 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:

The Boyd-Robertson Family in the death of their grandson
Stephen Sevick.



"We have seen his star in the east,
and have come to worship Him."
Matthew 2:2

"Sharing the Love of Christ"

Salem Lutheran Church
2101 North Virginia Street
Port Lavaca, TX 77979
361-552-9379

Web site: www.salemportlavaca.org
Emails: sharonwiggins99@gmail.com
secretary@salem-portlavaca.org

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Closed for Lunch from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.