

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

September 2019



### FROM PASTOR'S CORNER

**PRAYER COMMITTEE MEETING -**  
Tuesday, September 3rd at 5:30PM

**HOMEcoming SUNDAY -**  
September 8th, bring a friend!  
"Pot-Luck" Lunch

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING -**  
Sunday, September 15th



11-25  
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"So, what did we watch before  
football season started?"



## **Salem Lutheran Church**

*" Sharing the love of Christ "*

2101 N, Virginia  
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*

It is Labor Day Weekend and everyone is busy with the last hurrah of the Summer. Some are making a quick run to their favorite getaway spot for a little fun in the sun and the surf. before school gets going for real. Football and sports, with the demands of practices and games, make a big demand on the little time there is left after work and the other things that have to be done each day and each week.

So in the Spirit of the Season, Rally Day this year will be Home Coming Sunday. There will be Rally Day fun and games for the younger set and a Coming Home to Church celebration for everyone else and including the younger set too.

Having a Home Coming Sunday may sound like the chorus in that old hymn, Softly and Tenderly:

“Come home, come home!  
You who are weary, come home”  
Earnestly tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling, “O sinner, come home!”

As beautiful as that hymn is, and as much as many of us love it, that hymn was not exactly what we had in mind.

And Home Coming Sunday is not exactly a Christmas or Thanksgiving Day homecoming sort of day either. It is more of a football homecoming day sort of thing. You know how on the TV when it is the Homecoming Game for one of the teams they tell you all about the school at the half time. And Home Coming Game is special and your school is special and you know for sure that summer is really, really, really over. It is time to really get involved with school.

Our Church and our Church Family are special too. There will be a chance to see all of the ministries that make our congregation special—some in house things and some things done in the community. The Team Leaders for all of the Ministry groups are planning special exhibits of the things that are done under each umbrella ministry team. There will be lots of time to ask about the various ministries and to find out which ones you might be interested in taking part in and which ones you may want to avoid!

And what would Home Coming be without the Cheers?

Hey! (HEY!) Ho! (HO!) Jesus loves me , this I know.

Hey! (HEY!) Ho! (HO!) For the bible tells me so!

Two, Four, Six, Eight

Jesus told us not to hate.

And there are more. Still working on the choreography. Maybe you can help out with that at the Home Coming Sunday celebration.

Come Home! Celebrate! Share all the things you love about Salem Lutheran Church. Bring your friends and neighbors and relatives and a little something to share during the Pot Luck Meal.

*Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Wiggins*

# September Announcements

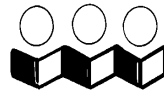


Homecoming Service -  
with "Pot-Luck" Lunch,  
Sunday, September 8th

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Congregational Meeting -  
Sunday, September 15th

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## CHOIR NOTES:

Choir Rehearsals;  
Wednesday nights at 7PM:  
Sept. 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th  
Choir Sunday Worship Services:  
Sept. 8th and 22nd



## **Fall Festival;**

November 10<sup>th</sup>!

## TREASURER'S REPORT



*A full treasurer's report  
was not ready at  
"Press-time" for the Sep-  
tember Salem Star,  
but August's offering  
totaled \$ 11,929.23.  
We collected \$ 861 for  
the local Food Pantry!*

This is Time of Intentional Prayer  
and Discernment, please pray for  
our Call Committee and our future  
pastor (whomever that may be)  
daily.



## **Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting August 12, 2019**

**Attendees:** Mike Rothmann, Cathy Hahn, Pastor Wiggins, Clarice Theide, Retha Hahn, and Lindy Cain

**Devotional**-Retha Hahn Corinthians Chapter 4

**Prayer and Concerns** – The Ruddick family, all caregivers, prayers for all of the educators and students going back to school this month

**Approval of Agenda:** Lindy 1<sup>st</sup> Cathy 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Approval of Minutes from previous meeting Reports:** Retha 1<sup>st</sup> Cathy 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Treasurer**- The new checking account has been opened and all the funds have been realotted to the appropriate account. We added a Profit and Loss statement that shows all of the expenses and the income for each month, thus eliminating the huge spread sheet. We should have a very clear easy to read statement as of September! The budget allowance will remain in the bulletin each month. Finally, Cathy made a motion to pay for Terri to take a QuickBooks class at a cost of \$175. Mike 1<sup>st</sup>, Retha 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Pastor** – The Assembly was held this month and Bishop Eaton was reelected to serve another 6 year term. Pastor Wiggin's initial contract is up at the end of this month and we (Salem Lutheran Church) ae going to renew it.

**Proclaim** – For Advent, we are giving to the Pregnancy Crisis Center. We would like to bring in their director to a church council. September 8<sup>th</sup> is "Homecoming Sunday" and we are having a potluck dinner. Tables will be set up in the Sunday school building with information about all the different ministries offered at Salem. Every member is encouraged to bring a friend! There will be a treasure hunt for the kids!

**Nurture** –Sunday school will not be called Sunday school anymore. We are looking for a new name for our new, fun and exciting curriculum No one person has to teach.....

**Response** - Christmas Dinner Theater

**Property –**

1. The air conditioning unit in the Fellowship Hall has been replaced and is working fine.
2. The slow-draining sink in the Fellowship Hall was caused from a broken underground drain line. During repairs, the drain under the sink began leaking, heavy grease buildup was found in the kitchen drain lines and the urinal would not shut off. All of these were repaired and/or cleaned out.
3. We will be purchasing a portable sound system for use in the Fellowship Hall and as needed in other areas.
4. Lutheran Disaster Recovery / Long Term Recovery Group has asked if we would be willing to have one or more of our Sunday School rooms converted into bedrooms for volunteer workers coming to town to do repairs, build homes, etc., for victims of Harvey. Council voted to present all the details to the congregation for its approval at a special meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business –** Call Process Update – Council received and reviewed the profile.

**New Business –** Council reviewed in full the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) prepared by the Call Committee. This profile will be submitted to the synod bishop for review and posting on the ELCA website. Minor changes were recommended and suggestions were made for a reference outside of the church. Retha made the motion to approve the MSP, Cathy seconded. Motion carried.

**Calendar –** Three dates were added to the September calendar:

8<sup>th</sup> - Homecoming and pot luck dinner

9<sup>th</sup> - Council meeting

15<sup>th</sup> – Special congregational meeting

**Closing Prayer –** All - The Lord's Prayer

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mike 1<sup>st</sup>, Retha 2<sup>nd</sup>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Lindy Cain Council Secretary

*The next council meeting  
will be held Tuesday,  
September 9, 2019 at 5:30PM.*

**Congregational Meeting**  
**September 15, 2019**

*The following was presented to council and council voted to present it to the congregation for consideration and approval at the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Lutheran Disaster Recovery / Long Term Recovery Group has asked if we would be willing to have one or more of our Sunday School rooms converted into bedrooms for volunteer workers coming to Port Lavaca to do repairs, build homes, etc., for victims of Harvey.

There will be 8 to 10 couples in their 50s, 60s and 70s. They are skilled workers...plumbers, electricians, carpenters and farmers. The couples are willing to pay a stipend for their rooms. The stipend will cover the increase in electrical and water/sewer usage, and any rent we may feel we should charge.

This will probably start October 1st lasting through May. They will do the room conversions, bring their own beds/bedding, and then convert the rooms back when they leave. They will need access to a kitchen for breakfast and dinner, and a place for devotions. They will bring in shower trailers that will need a water supply and access to the gray water sewer system (will need city approval). The shower trailers also need electricity. The workers have two tool trailers that will need to be parked for the entire time they are here. They have two vans that take the workers to and from the job sites as well as their personal vehicles.

Salem Lutheran Church has space for five couples and a place for one shower trailer, but they do not have space for the tool trailers. We also have a kitchen and a place for devotions (Fellowship Hall). The Presbyterian Church has space for a few other couples as well as parking for the tool trailers.



Things to consider:

- Storage of existing furnishings?
- Putting a toaster oven, microwave, refrigerator in Ed. Bldg. kitchen for use when the Fellowship Hall is not available?
- Will this affect our insurance coverage – 24/7 occupancy? Retha is following up on this.

Note: Salem is currently leasing part of its education building to Lutheran Social Services for disaster relief casework. The Long Term Recovery Group is another branch of Lutheran Social Services.

Please contact Retha Hahn (361-920-1248) if you have any additional questions or concerns prior to the meeting.

**HAVE YOU**  
**TALKED**  
**TO GOD**  
**TODAY?**



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

SEPTEMBER

Already September!! We have some shoeboxes plastic shoeboxes available if you would like to use one. These boxes are from Operation Christmas Child, so they are the correct size. The lid snaps on. They are available at no cost to you, pick up one or two to fill up. Thanks to everyone who has already picked up a box! This month toys are recommended for your shoebox.

Here are a few items you may include: coloring books, small cars, trucks, jump rope, soccer balls (deflated), hand air pump to fill soccer balls, paddle ball, Slinkys, dominoes, yo-yo, Play Doh, puzzles, inflatable beach balls, small Etch-a-Sketch, craft kits, checkers, jacks/ball, toy tool set, Legos, tic-tac-toe and card games. There are more listed in a Shoebox Item hand out list. Two things are not to be included are no candy of any kind and no toothpaste. We have lists and boxes available after services on Sunday and Terri has more in the office. Also shipping costs are \$9.

These items are fun to find and know what joy a child will feel when received!

De Colores!



## JOY IN THE MORNING

*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

James 1:27

God's love compels us to feed the hungry, empower the poor, defend the weak and help those who are suffering. When we do these things, it includes encouraging and strengthening those persecuted for their faith in Christ. The church has often led the way in education and medical services in developing countries until governments or other local agencies take over.

Brother Andrew says that giving humanitarian aid is a picture of Jesus knocking at the door of our hearts (our lives) in Revelation Chapter Three. The doors of many hearts in the church are closed to acts of mercy and love in action. Therefore, Jesus stands knocking at the door of our hearts asking that we open that door and let Him in. His coming into our lives enables us to do acts of love.

"They killed my husband before my very own eyes. As if that wasn't enough, they destroyed everything by burning down our house including my dear husband's workshop." These were the words of Esther, the widow whose husband was killed by jihadists in Nigeria in January 2010.

For the mother of seven, life became unbearable. The house that her children called home no longer existed and the daunting absence of an income was an inevitable reality. To worsen their circumstances, the in-laws abandoned Esther and her children. Surrounded by walls of a room too small for eight people, depression threatened to overshadow her and Esther cried night and day, asking God for a way out.

She truly needed a shoulder to lean on. A friend told us her story and from there Open Doors provided financial support for this family. As a result, the family was able to move into an apartment in a Christian area, with enough room for everyone. The new home lent enough space for Esther to even start working from home. She is a tailor by profession and hopes to rent a shop in the near future.

Esther thought it wise to take some of the money and start a vegetable garden on a small scale. The idea is to feed her family and at the same time generate an income from it. She is confident that her vegetable business will grow to the point where she will be able to send the children to school.

"If Open Doors had not come to my aid," Esther concluded with tears, "what would have become of me and my children? For all I know, we all would have been dead, either by the hands of Jihadists or hunger. As for my husband's killers—though it's been difficult—through your prayers and encouragement I've been able to forgive them."



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st:	William Boehl	15th:	Ashley Ruddick
2nd:	Lindsey Smith	18th:	Kaylie Moore
	Jason Yarborough	19th:	Cecilia Dolezal
3rd:	Iris Boyd-Robertson	22nd:	Kathy Vickery
	Saylor Garcia	25th:	Jason Bales
	Shaughnessy Howell	26th:	Janie Berger
4th:	Sophie Jo Franke		Kody Franke
	Lydia Strakos		Pat Gyllenband
6th:	Emily Hahn	30th:	Katie Anderson
7th:	Brian Caldwell		

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 1st:	Bobby & Margaret Gosnell
September 2nd:	Marshall & Lindsey Smith
September 9th:	Buddy & Lucille Winder
September 12th:	Leroy & Vera Hahn
September 20th:	Forest & Nancy Canion
September 24th:	Kody & Hillary Franke
September 24th:	Steven & Tina Tschatschula
September 29th:	Dale & Linda Hahn



If you have an addition or correction to the Birthday's and Anniversary's, please call the church office.



# Back to School

Z	G	N	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	L	V	Q
P	D	O	S	A	Y	U	A	J	E	I	G	U
Y	E	T	E	L	X	A	O	Y	G	L	U	E
Q	J	E	C	L	U	B	O	O	K	S	E	F
W	U	B	E	E	J	N	S	T	G	H	R	R
R	U	O	R	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	A	K
I	R	O	X	J	I	X	T	H	Q	P	S	R
T	P	K	O	W	J	P	B	M	B	E	E	E
I	M	A	M	D	E	Z	H	U	D	O	R	L
N	A	L	P	N	I	G	Z	T	M	R	X	U
G	T	K	C	E	R	M	L	B	N	L	G	R
R	H	I	L	G	R	G	N	I	D	A	E	R
P	L	A	Y	G	R	O	U	N	D	R	E	I

BOOKS  
DESK  
ERASER  
GLUE  
LUNCHBOX  
MATH

NOTEBOOK  
PAPER  
PENCIL  
PLAYGROUND  
READING  
RECESS

RULER  
STUDENT  
TEACHER  
WRITING







## *"Sharing the Love of Christ"* ATTENDANCE:

SUNDAYS of August:    04    11    18    25  
Worship Service:        58    48    77    52

### Welcomed Visitors:

#### August 4, 2019:

#### August 11, 2019:

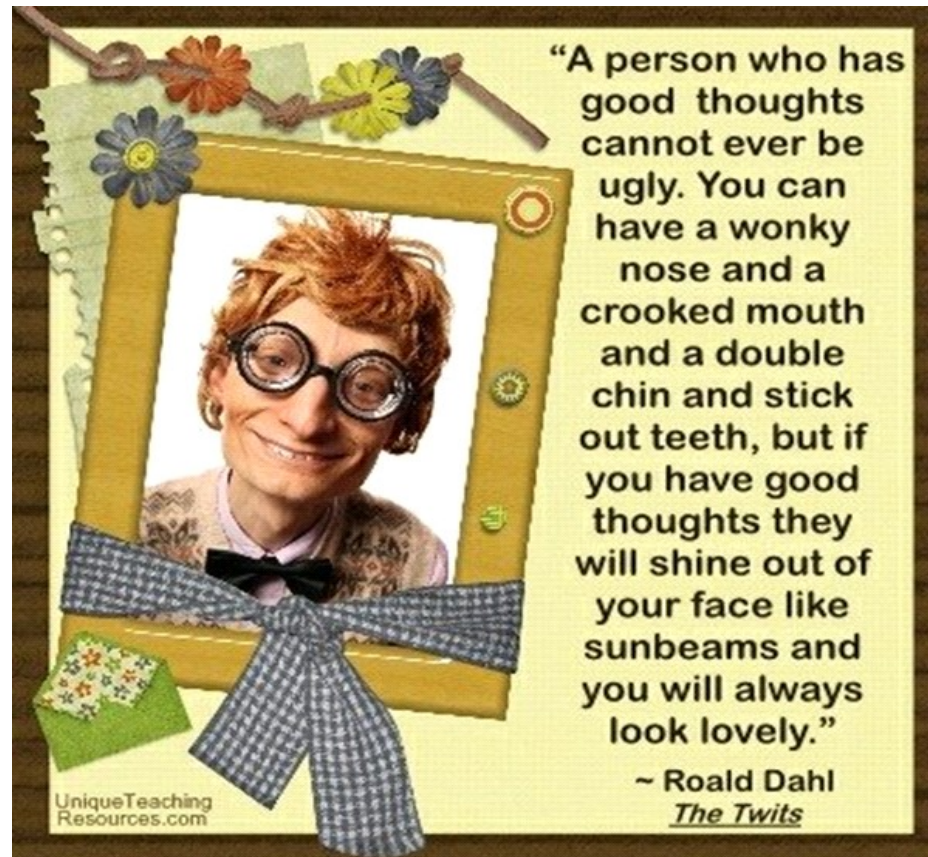
Stephen & Sheron Citzler  
Cody Lynn Starnes

#### August 18, 2019:

Ronny & Darla Dentler  
CodyLynn Starnes

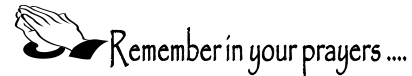
#### August 25, 2018:

Kayla & Iris Boyd-Robertson  
CodyLynn Starnes



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:**



**NEW PRAYER CONCERNS:**

This is Time of Intentional Prayer and Discernment, please pray for our Call Committee and our future pastor (whomever that may be) daily.

Sanda Ruddick	Cody Starns	Donald Wehmeyer
Shelton Albrecht	Mickey and Mary Beth Harris	

**CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Waymon Boyd	Dorothy Caraway	Vera Hahn
Leroy Hahn	Joyce Schaefer	Gabrielle Rodriguez
Karen Fowler	Cindy Schneider	Rita Boudreaux
Candice Harabis	Lloyd Bales	Buddy Winder
Wynde Albrecht Pustejovsky		

**BROOKEDALE RESIDENT:**

Ruth Hahn

**PORT LAVACA NURSING HOME RESIDENTS:**

Annie Halliburton  
Annette Ueckert  
Betty Sue Kupatt  
Sonny Gottschalt

**TODAY'S ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENT:**

**TRINITY SHORE RESIDENT:**

**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 family of James Richard Bowles, brother-in-law of Lydia Strakos, in his death.

"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  
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361-552-9379

Web site: [www.salemportlavaca.org](http://www.salemportlavaca.org)  
Emails: [sharonwiggins99@gmail.com](mailto:sharonwiggins99@gmail.com)  
[secretary@saalem-portlavaca.org](mailto:secretary@saalem-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.