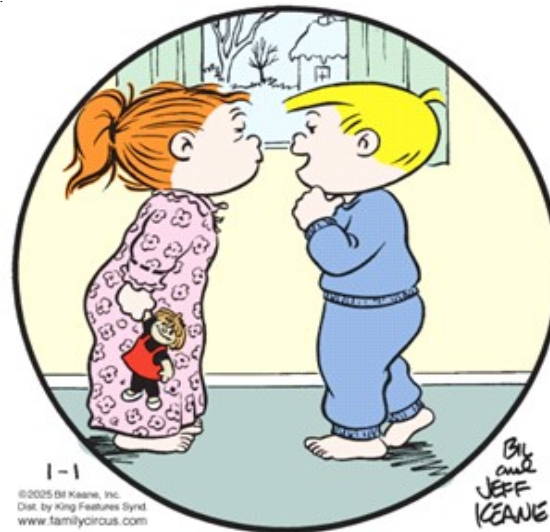
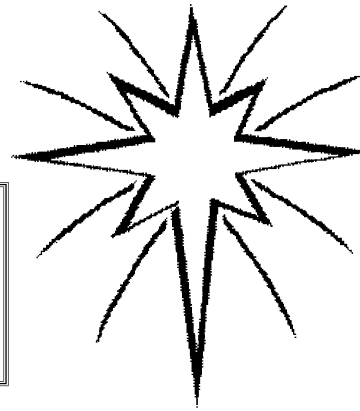


Salem Lutheran Church  
PO BOX 1897  
Port Lavaca, Tx 77979  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
January 2026



1-1  
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"I didn't see the new year come in,  
but I got up early and saw  
Mommy and Daddy come in."

Pastor's Corner  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
January 25, 2026



## **Salem Lutheran Church**

2101 N. Virginia

PO BOX 1897

Port Lavaca, Texas 77979

361-552-9379

[pastor@salemportlavaca.org](mailto:pastor@salemportlavaca.org) AND [secretary@salemportlavaca.org](mailto:secretary@salemportlavaca.org)

### **“ Sharing the Love of Christ “**

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00AM to 4:00PM

(Closed for lunch from 11:00-1:00PM)

Pastor	Pastor Nancy Jaster	630-605-8528
Office Manager	Terri Malaer	920-4013
Financial Secretary	Retha Hahn	920-1248
Choir Director	Kay Ham	484-5386
Organists	William Hahn, Jr.	552-7750
	Kay Ham	484-5386
	Kathy Riske	484-0835
Prayer Chain	Steve Bales	482-6646
Clothing God's Children		
Altar Guild Leader	Gail Wehmeyer	920-0826
	Retha Hahn	920-1248

### **Executive Council**

President	Steve Bales	482-6646
Vice President	Eddie Witt	482-8025
Secretary	Cheryl Caraway	801-244-1368
Treasurer	Karen Blinka	649-8241

### **Council Ministry Teams**

Proclaim	Dorothy Witt	782-8186
Nurture	Dottie Caldwell	571-0668
Response	Larena Hahn	746-0999
Property	Bobby Hahn	655-4318

## *Pastor's Corner*

Happy New Year!

In with the new and out with the old! I saw a news piece about a new tradition of writing things down that one is glad to be done with and then writing down what one plans to do in the coming year.

Sounds like a good plan to be specific about letting go of thoughts or behaviors that are no longer helpful and to take up those that are. It reminds me of Jesus' comment that one does not put new wine into old wineskins.

As we begin 2026 it is a wonderful time to make room for God's work in us and through us. You have been so gracious and generous as members of the body of Christ in Calhoun County. Now we continue that pattern of grace, kindness, compassion and generosity to each other and the community. God is creating a new thing in us and through us, so the old is passing away and the new is beginning.

And heartfelt thanks for your care, support, gifts and cards this past year and Christmas. You are deeply appreciated.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor



# January



**Annual  
Congregational  
Meeting will be held  
on  
January 25, 2026!!!**

Year End, 2025 Giving Statements will be available to pick up in the Narthex Sunday, January 11, 2026. They will be mailed out on January 28, 2026.

### **From the Nominating Committee**

These are the 2025 SLC Council positions that are open:

President:

Treasurer: Karen Blinka

Response Ministry:

Property Ministry:

Please prayerfully consider volunteering for the open positions, and speak to a Council Member. We will accept nominations from the floor.



*Choir Rehearsals start  
back for the new year  
on Wednesday night  
January 7, 2026  
at 7:00PM, come join us!*

**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes** *(unofficial)*

**December 14, 2025, at 10:15AM**

Council Members Present: Pastor Nancy Jaster, Cheryl Caraway, Bobby Hahn, Larena Hahn, Dorothy and Eddie Witt.

Prayer Concerns: No new concerns.

Approval of Agenda: Cheryl moved to approve, Bobby seconded, motion passed to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting: Pastor moved to approve, Eddie seconded, motion passed to approve November minutes.

**Reports:**

Treasurer: Submitted as information.

Pastor: Submitted as information.

Proclaim: Nothing new to report.

Nurture: Nothing new to report.

Response: Nothing new to report.

Property: Have not received the second half of bill for the AC unit, Bobby has contacted P.J. Wehmeyer. Bobby will do some maintenance on the lawn mower, because it has an oil leak.

Discussion on trimming limbs over the Fellowship Hall.

**Old Business:**

- Check with the nomination committee for potential nominees.
- The Fellowship Hall has been rented out for the first time, indicating success with the policy.

**New Business:**

- It is time to renew the 6-month CD at FNB and time to pay the Windstorm Insurance in January. We are short, a little over \$5,000.00 in the insurance fund account. Discussion over to cash the \$7,233.48 CD or use the Fall Festival monies to pay the difference. Pastor moved to use a little over \$5,000 of the Fall Festival money to make up the difference to be able to pay the Windstorm Insurance and to renew the FNB CD, Bobby seconded, the motion passed.

- Reviewed the Operating Fund Income and Expense Report with the proposed 2026 budget. Discussed the increases and decreases; the insurance savings for the church was changed from \$9,000 to \$7,000, based on Pastor and Terri's calculations. Looked at the Irrigation Water expense and decided we did not need that because we are not using it and haven't in a long time. Eddie moved to disconnect the irrigation water to remove it from the expense, Cheryl seconded, motion passed.
- Dorothy suggested that we order more Holden Evening Prayer booklets, because the current ones are falling apart.

Calendar: All ok.

Dates to Remember: Annual Meeting January 25, 2026

Adjournment: Pastor moved to adjourn, Dorothy seconded, motion passed and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Caraway, Secretary

## TREASURER'S REPORT



### **Income/Expenditure Chart (Rounded off to nearest dollar)**

	Income	Expenses	Month Gain (Loss)
<b>January</b>	\$ 16,887.00	\$ 19,338.00	\$ (2,451.00)
<b>February</b>	\$ 30,865.00	\$ 18,821.00	\$ 12,044.00
<b>March</b>	\$ 17,783.00	\$ 18,751.00	\$ (968.00)
<b>April</b>	\$ 19,971.00	\$ 18,638.00	\$ 1,333.00
<b>May</b>	\$ 12,695.00	\$ 20,638.00	\$ (7,943.00)
<b>June</b>	\$ 22,497.00	\$ 18,401.00	\$ 4,096.00
<b>July</b>	\$ 17,080.00	\$ 18,114.00	\$ (1,034.00)
<b>August</b>	\$ 18,575.00	\$ 19,248.00	\$ (673.00)
<b>September</b>	\$ 13,592.00	\$ 18,727.00	\$ (5,135.00)
<b>October</b>	\$ 18,247.00	\$ 18,945.00	\$ (698.00)
<b>November</b>	\$ 25,290.00	\$ 18,451.00	\$ 6,839.00
<b>December</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>YEAR END TOTALS</b>	\$ 213,482.00	\$ 208,072.00	\$ 5,410.00

December's offering totaled - \$ 20,029.18. and we collected \$ 1405.  
to share with the Food Pantry and the Oasis Showers!

## “Sharing the Love of Christ”

### ATTENDANCE:

<u>SUNDAYS of December:</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>28</u>
Worship Service:	N/A	49	73	57

Christmas Eve Service Attendance: 109



8th: Kristi Rothmann  
13th: Rob Barjenbruch  
14th: Retha Hahn  
15th: Joyce Schaefer  
18th: Jason Anderson  
William Hahn, Jr.  
21st: Harlen Aschen  
25th: Bobby Hahn



January 28th;  
Bill & Cynthia Hons

*Please call the office with corrections or additions to Birthday's and Anniversaries.*

It's that time of year again! time to start updating our member information for the 2026 telephone directory. A copy of last year's is in the Narthex for you to make corrections for your family.

**Annual Congregational  
Meeting will be held on  
January 25, 2026**



Remember in your prayers ....

**ANSWERED PRAYERS:**

**NEW PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Courtney Felder-Dodd	Dorothy Caraway	Brent Marek
Richard Horn	Lloyd Bales	Debra Harabis
Serenity Harabis	Aaron Ray Harabis	Asher Harabis
Dustin Caraway	Jack Thormahlen	Margaret Gosnell
Martha Smith	Janie Garza	Kelly Tomlison
Billy Guenther		

**CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Virginia Hahn	Damon Vickery	Joyce Schaefer
Rita Boudreaux		

**HIS SAFE HARBOR:** Marilyn Jaster

**SOLDALIS SENIOR LIVING RESIDENTS:** Ruth Hahn

**TRINITY SHORES RESIDENTS:** Bobby and Margaret Gosnell  
Vera Hahn and Paul Kelm

**THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES:**

Please help us keep our Prayer list up to date and call the church office at 361-552-9379 with Answered Prayers, New prayer concerns or Continued prayer concerns.

Our Prayer list helps us focus on those with specific needs whether they are members, family or friends.