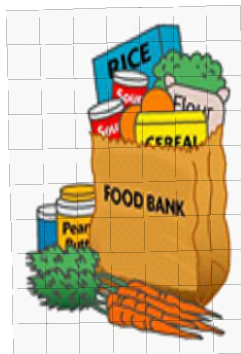


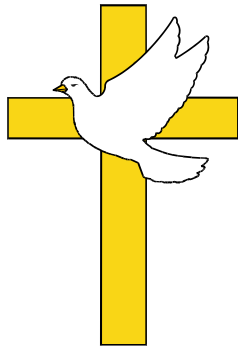
Salem Lutheran Church  
PO BOX 1897  
2101 North Virginia  
Port Lavaca, Tx 77979  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



August

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**AUGUST IS  
FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION  
MONTH!**



## **Salem Lutheran Church**

*" Sharing the love of Christ "*

PO Box 1897  
2101 N. Virginia St.  
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979  
361-552-9379  
pastor@salemportlavaca.org  
secretary@salemportlavaca.org

Pastor	Pastor Nancy Jaster	630-605-8528
Office Manager	Terri Malaer	920-4013
Financial Secretary	Retha Hahn	920-1248
Choir Director	Altus Aschen	552-3085
Organists	Altus Aschen	552-3085
	William Hahn, Jr.	552-7750
	Kathy Riske	484-0835
Prayer Chain	Steve Bales	482-6646
Clothing God's Children		
	Gail Wehmeyer	920- 0826
Altar Guild Leader	Retha Hahn	920-1248

### **Executive Council**

President	Lydia Strakos	920-5088
Vice President	Eddie Witt	482-8025
Secretary	Cheryl Caraway	801-244-1368
Treasurer	Karen Caraway	649-8241

### **Council Ministry Teams**

Proclaim	Dorothy Witt	782-8186
Nurture	Dottie Caldwell	571-0668
Response	Lindsey Smith	676-4268
Property	David McAfee	484-0414

## *Pastor's Ponderings,*

Greetings all!

Here's a little info on something I'm working on. I'm participating in a class exploring ways in which the church can be relevant and part of the community. Things have changed so much in the past 4 years. Changes were occurring before Covid. It seems that after Covid the changes are more pronounced. The title of the class is 'Funding Forward' with the first section called 'Buildings: Burden or Blessing.' I find it very interesting, thought provoking and helpful.

One concept that we are exploring is how to align mission and money. We are invited to consider that maybe some ministries need to be released so we can focus on other ministries that are more helpful now. That is a tough one. How does one move from one good thing that is no longer helpful to something else that is now more in keeping with our journey? Grief and fear are part of the process, and yet we are called to move forward.

The following statement resonated with me: "Tithing and offering are no longer the model sustainable ministry." The conversation revolves around the decline of membership and the upkeep of buildings. The membership can be very generous but still not be able to support the ministry. This is where new income sources are helpful to explore. Here at Salem that might mean seeking ways to rent out space in our Fellowship Hall.

I have no idea how all this will play out, but I hope you will join me in the process of seeing what God is calling us to do. As we look to the future and talk about the upcoming ministry spending, I ask that you consider what things might we need to let go of so that we can grab onto what Jesus is putting before us.



*Blessings,  
Pastor*



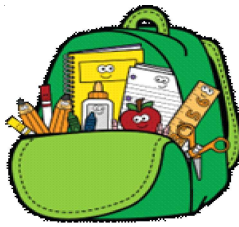
# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Dear Salem Members,

Salem Lutheran Church Council will hold a special Called Congregational meeting on Sunday, August 4, 2024 immediately following worship service. This meeting will be held to approve the paint bid for painting three buildings; the office, the education building and the fellowship hall. Please come, your input and vote is important.

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## ATTENTION:

the first day of school is August 14, 2024.

On August 11th we will be blessing the backpacks, brief cases, book-bags and totes!

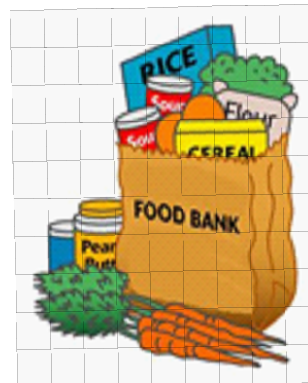
Teachers and ALL Students (college, grad-school, pre-etc!) you are invited to bring them to worship to be blessed.

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## AUGUST IS SALEM'S TURN TO COLLECT FOR THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY

### These are especially needed items:

Dry Milk (box with individual packs)	
Canned Pasta	Canned Chicken
Corn Bread Mix	Canned Tuna
Boxed Pudding	Spam
Boxed Jello	Vienna Sausage
Canned Fruit	Toilet Paper





## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD AUGUST

Time to start thinking about Operation Christmas Shoeboxes! These boxes go all over the world. Some stay here in the USA for children affected by disasters. Please try to include some new socks and a new T-shirt. Hard to believe socks are a big deal.

We have the boxes available after church services on July 21st. They will also be available in the church office. The boxes are free of charge. Please pick up one and fill it! Please do NOT include toothpaste, liquids of any kind and NO food. Apparently different countries have different shipping rules.

The boxes are due Nov. 17, 2024.

School supplies are in plentiful supply now. There are so many neat items available. The main items needed in each box are notebook paper, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, pens, crayons, markers, mini-staplers, staples, ruler, glue stick, notepads, highlighters, school scissors, paper clips, and composition books. All children need these supplies. Some are able to go to school for the first time because these items were in their shoebox. We take crayons for granted, but in other countries, crayons are very expensive. Most families cannot afford to buy them, so please include a box in your shoebox. Shipping is \$10.00 per box. You may donate money for shipping if you wish.

It is a lot of fun to go shopping for these items and know they are appreciated and needed.

De Colores!

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
**(Un-official Minutes from last meeting)**  
**June 9, 2024, at 10:15 AM**

Council Members Present: Pastor Nancy Jaster, Lydia Strakos, Cheryl Caraway, Dave McAfee, Lindsey Smith, Dottie Caldwell, Dorothy and Eddie Witt

Prayer Concerns: No new concerns.

Approval of Agenda: Pastor Nancy moved to approve, Cheryl seconded, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting: Dottie moved to approve, Dave seconded, motion passed to approve April minutes. There was no meeting in May due to the absence of a quorum. Because of the annual congregational meeting, there was no monthly council meeting in January, therefore, no minutes to approve for January.

**Reports:**

Treasurer: Still within budget. However, had a higher expense month due to the purchase of office supplies, annual payroll subscription and purchase of alter care items.

Pastor: Submitted as information.

Proclaim: Nothing to report.

Nurture: Discussed possibilities of joining with another church for VBS next year.

Response: Nothing to report.

Property: The exterior of the education building, office building and fellowship hall will be painted.

Old Business: None.

**New Business:**

- The blessing of the backpacks will be in August, for school starts on August 14.
- Discussed getting children together for 1<sup>st</sup> communion, becoming acolytes, and giving Bible gifts.

- Discussed getting a Knox Box (lock box with keys) which allows fire and law enforcement agencies immediate access into buildings during emergencies.
- The church has renewed its property insurance.
- Discussed creating a hurricane preparedness team; need to check on current plywood or obtaining plywood for windows.
- Pastor explained the need for a mobile phone for the office because of the internet and the need for 2 factor authentication.
- The 2024 upgrade for QuickBooks is over \$1000.00. It now requires an annual subscription. Discussed the purchase of this subscription by using money from the MI Memorial Fund that has not been used in many years by creating a new line item under office supplies for software.  
Lindsey moved and Eddie seconded, motion passed for authority to create a line item under office supplies for software and move money from MI Living Memorial Fund to allow for purchase of the QuickBooks upgrade.
- The Councilperson schedule for July – December will be updated and emailed to council members.
- Discussed having the church roof looked at and possibly putting an insurance claim in for hail damage to roof due to shingles being found on the ground.

Calendar: All ok.

Dates to Remember: None.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Caraway, Secretary

<p>Next Council Meeting - Sunday, August 11th at <b>10:00AM.</b></p>
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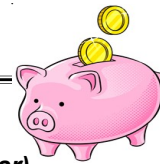
## FROM THE SLC COUNCIL

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*Thank you for your continued support  
and generosity with all the school supplies  
for the local Hardhead Derby.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

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



	Income	Expenses	Month Gain (Loss)
January	\$ 16,600.00	\$ 19,382.00	\$ (2,782.00)
February	\$ 23,915.00	\$ 19,112.00	\$ 4,803.00
March	\$ 16,355.00	\$ 18,109.00	\$ (1,754.00)
April	\$ 16,741.00	\$ 18,036.00	\$ (1,295.00)
May	\$ 12,295.00	\$ 20,070.00	\$ (7,775.00)
June	\$ 15,519.00	\$ 17,774.00	\$ (2,255.00)
<b>YEAR END TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 101,425.00</b>	<b>\$ 112,483.00</b>	<b>\$ (11,058.00)</b>

*July's offering totaled - \$ 15,992.94.  
We need roughly \$20,000 per month to meet  
our monthly expenses.*

*A complete expense report was not finalized  
for the August newsletter.*



***“Sharing the Love of Christ”***  
**ATTENDANCE:**

<u>SUNDAYS of July:</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>28</u>
Worship Service:	20	49	35	47

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# August



4th:: Glenda Franke  
8th: Martha Riske  
13th: Pam Bales  
Linda Hahn  
Mark Howell  
Al Nielsen  
26th: Nicholas Yarborough  
28th: Leigh Burton

August 4th:  
Marty & Holly Strakos  
August 16th:  
Joel & Katie Anderson  
August 21st:  
Harlen & Altus Aschen

*Please call the church office for any  
additions or corrections.*

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Want to join the Salem Lawn Care Team? The team is responsible for mowing the grass, edging, and weed eating Salems property. There are currently only three members that are on a rotating schedule. They would really appreciate having a couple more folks on the team and in the rotation.



If you are interested, please contact Properties  
Coordinator, Dave McAfee.

# Walking in the Light

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. John 3:19-20 (NIV)

Complete the activity.



The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
2	3	20	12	10	21	18	22	15	16	0	8	19	14	4	17	25	5	23	1	9	24	13	11	7	6

- 8-15-18-22-1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-4-19-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-10-10-12-23 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-5-9-1-22 \_\_\_\_\_
- 22-2-1-10-23 \_\_\_\_\_
- 17-10-4-17-8-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 13-4-5-8-12 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8-4-24-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-24-15-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-2-5-0-14-10-23-23 \_\_\_\_\_

LIGHT	COME	DEEDS	TRUTH	HATES
PEOPLE	WORLD	LOVE	EVIL	DARKNESS



Remember in your prayers ....



**ANSWERED PRAYERS:**

**NEW PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Vera Hahn	Austin Marek	Jack Thormahlen
Dorothy Caraway	Kenneth Eilers	Debbie Vitanza
Lisa Peitz	Krysten Navarro	Janie Garza
Kelly Tomlison	Billy Guenther	

**CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Damon Vickery	Chase Piwetz	Ebin Ham
Doris Malaer	Whitney McAfee	Cecil Boyd
William Witt	Nelson Scroggins	Joyce Schaefer

**MORADA SENIOR LIVING RESIDENT:** Ruth Hahn

**THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY:**

**THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES:**

The family of Bill Sturm in his death.  
The family of Joyce Jetton in her death.  
The family of Erling Smith in his death.  
The family of Fritz Sturm in his death.  
The family of Craig Sturm in his death.  
The family of Tyler Tesch in his death.  
The family of Alma Wehmeyer in her death.

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.



"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

PO BOX 1897

2101 North Virginia Street

Port Lavaca, TX 77979

361-552-9379

Emails: [pastor@salemportlavaca.org](mailto:pastor@salemportlavaca.org)

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

**OFFICE HOURS**

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(Closed for Lunch from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)