

The SEER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2021

MINISTRY SCHEDULE



SUNDAY
SERVICES
9:30 AM

Sept. 5- Now the Feast
Sept. 12- Now the Feast
Sept. 19- ELW, setting 3
Sept. 26- ELW, setting 3

We are currently worshipping with masks, and provide socially distanced seating in the Parish Hall.

We have open communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table!

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

Once again we have chosen Our Daily Bread to support "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday, September 12th.

Peanut butter can be left weekly at the church in the food baskets under the coat racks or brought on Sunday the 12th.



Thank you all for your help!

How to Help an Afghan Refugee

Please check out several ways you can help our Afghan allies and vulnerable people resettle in the US through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS): ADAPT:

Act, Donate, Advocate and Pray, Today

Ideas and ways you can do each of these are outlined in their website, LIRS.org under the tab 'Take Action'. LIRS has been preparing for this for months, but needs our help.

We are grateful that Salem member Chelsey Johnson is working hard for LIRS. Pray for her and her colleagues as they do this important work.



SERVICE MINISTRY NEWS & UPDATES!

SCHOOL KITS – We have mostly wrapped up our collections of school supplies for the fall, but if you purchased items and just haven't dropped them off yet, the collection table in the hall is still in place to do so. We won't ship the backpacks until October 5. We have filled 30 for Lutheran World Relief.

OAKS & FOOTBALL -Oaks kids will come for football and breakfast on Saturday, September 11. Students from Native American Student Association plan to join them. Football parking monies and member contributions help support this.

Looking forward to activities for the rest of the year, we're hoping to hold our annual Bake/Quilt/Craft sale (in November!), and we'll be collecting Christmas presents for Oaks kids as well as Stillwater school's international kids. Stay tuned for more info on this last item. Thank you for your contributions!



From the Pastor : On Rest

My generation was the first to go to Kindergarten as a part of the public school system. It was a half-day program and featured educational toys, circle time, and learning to follow directions. And it included a rest time! We would get our rest mats and lay right down on the floor for some quiet time. A few years later I can remember hearing my parents talking about feedback from my little brother's kindergarten teacher. She awarded the title 'Best Rester' each day, but my brother was clearly not a candidate. 'Try to be a Best Rester today' I would hear my mom encourage him. (At last, well into the year, he came home triumphantly with the title!)

Maybe you are a candidate for Best Rester, but most people I talk to admit that they are not. Finding rest is a matter of some concern these days. The stress and strain of a pandemic has created new needs for respite and has also forced a reassessment of our culture's value of obsessive work and disdain for rest. There is even a global movement called the 'Lying Flat Movement', started by a man in China who posted a picture of himself stretched out on his bed, claiming "Lying Flat is Justice". He maintains his 'right to choose a slow lifestyle' of supporting himself with odd jobs so that he can read and exercise. 'Rest is resistance', the movement says. There is even a woman who now promotes "Nap Ministry".

Without starting a social movement, Christians have sacred reasons to consider the 'justice' of rest. 'Justice' in faith terms means to be aligned with God's will. And we know who the original Inventor of rest is, right? The Jews shared many cultural customs with their neighbors, but Sabbath rest was unique. The psalmist knows a Shepherd who makes him lie down in green pastures, leads him beside still waters, and restores his soul. Jesus calls to us, "*Come to me, all who that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you...and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*"

Jesus' combination of 'work' (yoked with him, and for his purposes) and 'rest' (a gift for the weary from Jesus) seems just right. Where do we find it? It will be different for each of us, I would think. And how can we provide the space for our neighbors to have rest as well? To be continued...

In the meantime...get some rest!
Pastor Sally



Salem Family,

We want to thank you for all the beautiful cards that you gave us to use in our card ministry. The cards were exceptionally nice. We will really enjoy sending them. This generous gift has touched our hearts.

Larry & Margaret Redburn

Council News

What a difference a month makes! In July we were so happy to be meeting in person, masks were optional for the fully vaccinated, coffee hour had resumed, and council was meeting in-person. We were returning to normal and it was exciting. And now the elephant in the room is the Delta Variant of Covid. Masks are required for everyone (except small children), coffee hour is on hold and council had their retreat on Zoom. So planning is difficult and we're back to wondering how long is this going to last and what are we going to look like when it's under control?

Being cautious is important, stepping back was necessary. But it started me looking and counting all the good things going on. We are live-streaming our Sunday morning service which allows us to worship from home, on vacation, or wherever we are. Service Ministry is collecting school supplies for local schools and to share globally. The Sewers are creating beautiful quilts, and Campus Ministry is active. Worship and Music Ministry, including Altar Guild, have us ready for worship every week. Greeters and ushers welcome us on Sunday and council is meeting. I am also thankful to all of you for being faithful in your financial giving. Salem is strong and doing well!

But I am challenging all of us to think about when we return safely. What might we like Salem to offer? There are many options for small groups to meet our interests and passions ranging from weekly coffee gatherings, monthly dinner group, studying social justice interests or legislative bills and actions that affect us. And then there are opportunities for an organized volunteer team to spend time making a difference. Ideas are not limited to these suggestions. BUT, I would like to hear from all of you about your ideas. Your reply doesn't mean you are committing yourself or have to be in charge! My contacts: judylewis@suddenlink.net or 405-747-9116 for talk or text.

The Synod Fall Theological Conference scheduled for September 20-22 has been rescheduled for a Zoom gathering. Last week the bishop announced he is scheduling the afternoon of Tuesday, September 21 as a time for rest and enjoyment, asking all Pastors to turn off their electronic devices and spend an afternoon doing something they like to do and asking all of us to give them that time.

So mark your calendar: SEPTEMBER 21, 12:00-5:00 DO NOT DISTURB!
TIME OFF FOR PASTOR SALLY FOR REST AND FUN!!

Be safe and stay well.

Hugs,
Judy Lewis
Council President



In case you missed it, a few pic's from Jesslyn Lovell's Baptism on August 22





Birthdays

- 5 *Jeri Sahs*
- 7 *CJ Wolfe*
- 8 *Bert Hanson*
- 9 *Jess Prater*
- 10 *Carol Beier*
- 21 *Diane Jipling*
- 23 *Roger Rutz*
- 26 *Logan Anderson*
- 29 *Jricia Atuberle*

Anniversaries

- 1 *Cindy & Steve Haseley*
- 4 *Jim & Paula Long*
- 10 *Michelle & Scott
Hubbard*

Please let the office know if we need to add anyone to this list!

During September, the Adult Discussion class will complete “The Beginnings of Judaism”, based on lectures by Professor Isaiah M. Gafni from a Great Courses video

The topics will include:

- September 5th – Lecture 21 – “From Jerusalem to Yavne – Rabbinic Judaism”
- September 12th – Lecture 22 – “The Shaping of Rabbinic Judaism”
- September 19th – Lecture 23 – “A Violent Epilogue – Bar Koba”
- September 26th – Lecture 24 – “From “Root” to “Tree””

Beginning in October the Class will embark on a new series of discussions. New members are always welcome to join at any time!

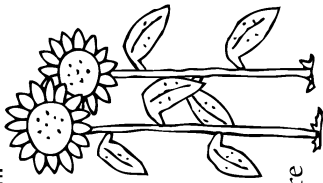
The Class continues as a Zoom meeting at 11:00 AM on Sunday mornings following in person worship at 9:30 AM. The address for the Zoom meetings can be found in Pastor’s Tuesday Memos and the Sunday Service E-Mail.



Adult Sunday School Class

Follow the Son

Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

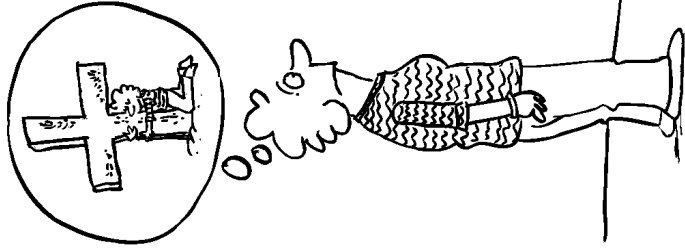


What you need:

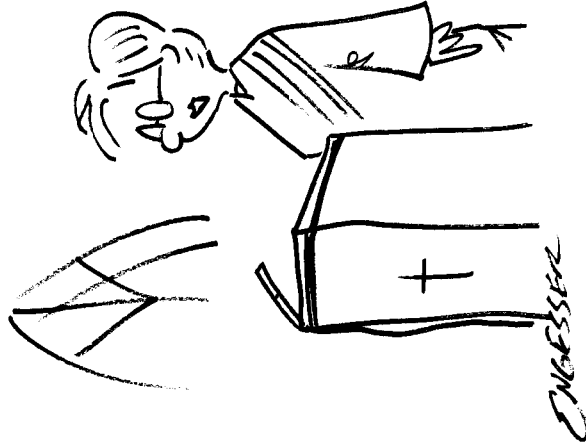
- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)

What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!



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Hug a Tree



"Now that everyone's greeted their neighbor with a handshake, the ushers will be dispensing hand sanitizer."



From the heart

We all need people who share godly wisdom with us.

Directions: First, unscramble the bold letters to spell another word for "pal." Write that word in the first empty row. Then move the words under each bold letter to that letter's new column. The result will be Proverbs 27:9, NIV.

	D	E	F	I	R	N
F						
to		bring	Perfume	incense	and	joy
Perfume						
of		the	the	and	heart,	pleasantness
the						
advice.		their	a friend	from	springs	heartfelt
A friend						

Answer: F R I E N D; Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NIV

September 2021 Volunteer List

2021	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26
Assisting Minister 9:30	Kevin Gerfen	Luke Ratke	Mark Pennie	Tricia Auberle
Ushers 9:30	Rick and Carol Beier	Catherine & Moses Vijayakumar	Stephen & Cindy Haseley	Brandon Hearp & Terry Gipson
Greeter 9:30	David & Judy Lewis	Kevin & Priscilla Gerfen	Rick & Annette Cowell	Bruce & Elaine Ackerson
Altar Guild	Mary Jo Lanier	Maria Wolff	Shelley Schmidt	Joanna Gipson
Flowers				Tricia Auberle
Counters				
Campus Ministry	Elaine Ackerson	Pam Talley	Lisa	Priscilla Gerfen

Words cannot express our appreciation for everything our church family did to make our remembrance of Jay so lovely. Everyone that helped with the service and the lunch made our day a little easier. The lunch was excellent and a big hit with the "Texas" crowd. We'd also like to thank everyone for the cards and calls. It meant a lot to us. Jay was so happy to be a part of the Salem family.

*God's blessings,
Pam, Justin, Denise, Jamison,
Julius & Synnove*





Evangelical Lutheran
Church (ELCA)
101 S. Duck St.
Stillwater OK 74074

MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor ~ Sally Houck
Director of Music ~ Krystal Hennessey
Choir Director ~ Elizabeth Albright
Office Coordinator ~ Lisa Murray-Francis
Parish Nurse ~ Cindy Pennie
Media Specialists ~ Olen & Olie Weaver ,
Jeremy Hennessey
Peer Minister ~ Sydney Ulrich

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday 8-Noon, Tuesday-Thursday
8-1pm, Friday 8-11am
Telephone numbers: 405-372-3074, 372-0879
(Please leave a message)
Email Address: salemelc@sbcglobal.net



Both of the **church's parking lots** will be blocked off at 5pm the Friday before an OSU home football game. (Games are Sept. 4, 11 & 25.) To park, use the Elm on-street parking on the north side of the church. Or if you need access to the lot during this time, please contact the church office mornings, or Brandon Hearp 614-4033, to make arrangements.

SLY members and families should contact Stacie or Brandon Hearp to sign up for parking– 614-4032 or 614-4033.

Choir rehearsal will resume on September 8 at 7 pm.
Please wear a mask.
Our goal is to stay safe while singing together.
Elizabeth is looking forward to seeing and hearing everyone again!!

The Book Club meets the last Monday of each month. Contact Priscilla Gerfen- 624-6235 or check your church bulletin for meeting locations or Zoom information or for more information. New members are always welcome!



Campus Ministry dinners are
Thursday evenings
at 6pm. All college students
are welcome to come and eat a
home cooked meal.
Eat and run, or
stay for Bible Study.

Feel free to come to the
church during office hours for
lunch or quiet study time.

All college students are
welcome!