

The SEER

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2024



9:30am

August 4- Now the Feast
August 11- Now the Feast
August 18- Now the Feast
with Communion
August 25- Now the Feast

**Friday Morning Bible Study
at 10am via ZOOM.**

Newcomers welcome.
Pre-reading not required!



The very first
Synod Online Zoom
Confirmation class
will begin on
Wednesday,
August 14th from
6:30pm-7:30pm.

This is open to all
youth in our Synod, grades 5th-12th.
If you have someone in that age group
who is interested, please contact
peter@aokelca.org for more details and
to be placed on the Synod email list for
this program.



Jacob and Matthew had a great time at the 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans. They learned that we are "Created to Be" : Brave, Authentic, Free and Disruptive!

They attended the Mass Gathering in the evenings with 16,000 other Lutheran youth.

Their days were filled with synod worship, interactive learning, accompaniment day, a scavenger hunt through the French Quarter and of course they made time to sample a few beignets!



**Cindy Pennie and her Mission group
are in Tanzania.**

Once they start posting, you can keep track of their activities on their blog- (Please note the dot between surgery and blogspot)

tanzaniasurgery.blogspot.com

The council has been busy on a variety of items. We started by increasing the size of our council. We went from seven members to eleven. I personally would like to thank everyone who has made the commitment to serve on our church council. In case you are not familiar with your council, here is our roster. Pam Talley-president, Barbara Bliss-vice president, Jared Smith-secretary, Scott Wolff-treasurer, Michelle Ratzlaff-financial secretary, Jan Anderson, Lindsay Bash, Joanna Gipson, Jim Long, Matthew Schmidt, and Catherine Vijayakumar. We would like to point out that everyone on the roster was elected to that position, therefore everyone on the council is a voting member.

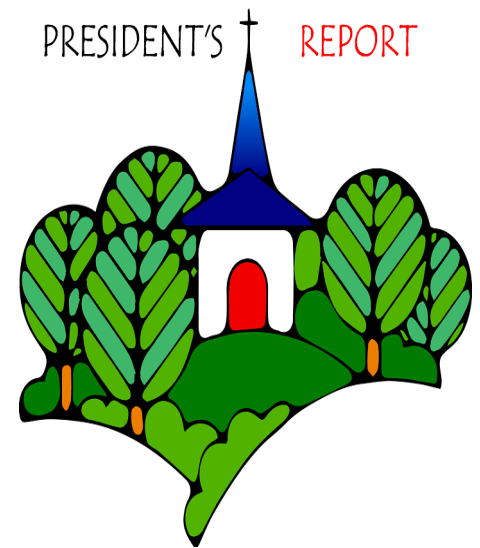
We realize that everyone is anxious about calling a pastor. We can assure you that the call committee is working diligently on a very difficult process. They need our prayers more than ever right now. They are doing an outstanding job.

Salem continues to move forward, and we will prevail. The Transition Prayer Team is actively praying for all aspects of our congregation's current position. Building and Grounds has done an outstanding job over the last few months organizing and decluttering our facilities, making our environment much more pleasant. Service continues to reach out to our community and world in numerous projects. Right now Service continues to care for the Little Pantry and they have just started their fall school supply drive. RIC continues to work toward all the aspects of Salem's commitment to becoming a Welcoming Environment for everyone. The efforts of providing a Nursery on Sunday mornings continue. The nursery has been manned by volunteers the last few months. Plans to have a manned Nursery continue. We thank the Sunday morning Adult Discussion Group as they are preparing to resume that ministry in September. Mutual Ministry has reorganized and we have a great group that is committed to their purpose. We would not have uninterrupted Worship Services if not for the hard work of the Worship and Music ministry. They have worked diligently to ensure that all the moving parts of our service are taken care of each Sunday.

Lastly, we need to thank Pastor Josh Johnson, as he has agreed to preside at Salem once a month beginning in August through the end of the year. This means we will be able to have communion at least once a month. Pastor Josh will be with us again on August 18th.

We want you all to realize that Salem is still moving forward. These are just some highlights. The council would like to thank you for your prayers and support. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask any of your council members.

Blessings,
Pam Talley



Each Sunday in our Prayers of Intercession, we pray for the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. The names become familiar to us but their faces are frequently known only to their dear ones who added these service people to our prayer list. This fall we would like to learn more about those for whom we pray by posting a photograph and having a short message from their friends and family.

These images and comments will be displayed in the parish hall and shared in the weekly Salem newsletter. If you would like to include someone, send a photograph and a message to Annette Cowell at akcowell@sbcglobal.net or text 405-612-8020



Volunteer Schedule

2024	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
Assisting Minister	Marvin Shiever	Jared Smith	Priscilla Gerfen	Joanna Gipson
Ushers	Ken and Jan Bartels	Pat Darlington & Tracy Nordquist	Dorothy Johnson & Catherine Vijayakumar	Roger & Teri Sahs
Greeter	Judy and David Lewis	Pat Roark	Annette and Rick Cowell	Elaine and Bruce Ackerson
Altar Guild	Priscilla Gerfen	Maria Moccia-Wolff	Dorothy Johnson (Holy Communion)	Joanna Gipson
Coffee Hour	Annette and Rick Cowell	Roger & Teri Sahs	Pot-Luck!	Naserian Kambaine & Pragna
Flowers	Dorothy Johnson		Bash Family	
Counters	Lori Oltmanns & Michelle Ratzlaff	Cindy Haseley & Maria Moccia-Wolff	Priscilla Gerfen & Keith Schmidt	Paula Long & Terry Gipson



The parking for OSU football games will be a combined effort of families and volunteers from the congregation. The lots will be blocked off at 5pm the day before. Thank you Shelley Schmidt for coordinating our efforts!

Game times: **Saturday, August 31** at 1pm (would need to be there around 10am until sold out), **Saturday, September 7** at 11am (8am), **Saturday, September 21**, (time- TBA) **Saturday, October 5** (TBA), **Homecoming! November 2** (TBA), **Saturday, Nov. 23** (TBA).

If you can help, please contact Shelley Schmidt at 880-3017 or willowcreek_hs@provalue.net



August



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 12 Olie Weaver**
Andrew Gipson
- 15 Jan Anderson**
- 16 Jason Bash**
- 20 Eric Ebersole**
- 22 Sharon Schonthaler**
Michelle Hubbard
- 23 Lynn Lester**
- 28 Annette Cowell**
- 30 Jacque Jones**

Anniversaries

- 5 Belinda & Ray Hammergren**
- 13 Annette & Rick Cowell**
- 14 Cindy & Mark Pennie**
- 17 Scott & Maria Wolff**
- 30 Elaine & Bruce Ackerson**

Salem Invited to Provide Input on Bread for the World's Platform

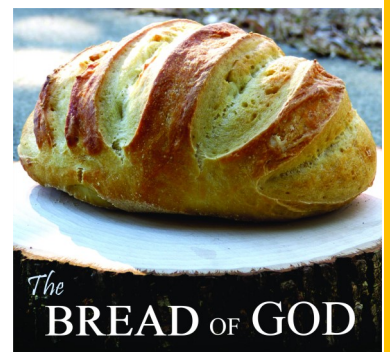
We have been invited to shape the advocacy platform for Bread for the World. Every year we offer letters to our Congress members regarding legislation that impacts both domestic and international hunger. It's a great way to honor the fifth Lutheran baptismal promise to strive for justice and peace in all the world.

This year Bread for the World is asking for our input on a proposed platform for the next two-year session of Congress. Please join us for a brief presentation of what they are considering, followed by an open forum during which we will note your responses and suggestions to the things they propose.

Tuesday, August 27 at 7pm
Salem Fellowship Hall
Refreshments will be served.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall so we can gauge how much food we will need.

For additional information contact Tricia Auberle at 405-990-5658.



MINISTRY STAFF

Director of Music ~ Krystal Hennessey
Choir Director ~ Elizabeth Albright
Office Coordinator ~ Lisa Murray-Francis
Parish Nurse ~ Cindy Pennie
Media Specialists ~ Olie Weaver
Peer Minister ~ Cara Hubenett

CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8am-1pm
Friday- 8 - 11am

Telephone numbers: 405-372-3074,
372-0879 (please leave a message!)

Email Address: salemelc@sbcglobal.net

Church Website: saalemstillwaterok.org

Coming Up!

Campus Ministry resumes our homemade dinners on Thursday, August 29. Sign-up in the Parish Hall!



Salem's Christmas Sale will be Dec. 7, so if you're a Christmas-in-July crafter, consider making items for the sale.

Game Night is back starting September 20, Card, tabletop, and board games every third Friday at 6:00 PM. Bring games, snacks, and beverages for this family friendly event. Bring a friend and let's have some fun!



God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 8 at Our Daily Bread, - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. We are collecting peanut butter to donate.

Please leave jars in the baskets in the south hall.



Book Club in August – Once There Were Wolves by Charlotte McConaghy, Monday, August 26 contact Priscilla at priscilla@gerfen.com for more info.

Just a reminder that our services are shared on-line, in real time and recorded, from the prelude through the postlude.

If you enjoy getting caught up with other members, please join the group at the coffee pot. MaryJo has a cup ready for you before the service.

Our worship begins with the Prelude and the lighting of the Altar candles. Please be respectful of our worship space, our musicians and your fellow worshipers as you quietly prepare for worship.

