



Salem Messenger

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Church Office E-mail – salem@salembrenham.org Website – www.salembrenham.org

Salem Sunday School E-mail– salem_sunday_school@yahoo.com

Like us on Facebook

Pastors - *Jill Vivroux*

Administrative Assistant - *Jenny Sebastian*

June 2020

COVID-19 Update

Please note that as of March 18, 2020 Salem will be suspending all worship services and activities until we are able to open the church back up for large gatherings. There are many ways to stay connected with Salem during this time. Please note that there are activities listed in the newsletter, but those are suspended as well until the church fully opens.

Stay connected with Salem by:

- 1) Watch Salem's Facebook
- 2) Join Remind Text
- 3) Visit our website
- 4) Watch your emails
- 5) Watch the monthly newsletters
- 6) Listen to KWHI on Sunday mornings.

Stay connected with Sunday School by:

- 1) Watch Salem's Facebook
- 2) Join Remind Text
- 3) Visit our website
- 4) Watch your emails
- 5) Watch the monthly newsletters

Salem will be posting live sermons from Pastor Jill Vivroux on the Facebook page!!

Adult Remind Text:

Text this number: 81010

Text this message: @salemfaith

Kids Remind Text:

Text this number: 81010

Text this message: @salemchild

Youth Remind Text:

Text this number: 81010

Text this message: @salemsrhi

Our Salem Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SalemBrenham/>

Readings for Sunday's in June 2020

June 7th

First Reading – Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel – Matthew 28:16-20

June 14th

First Reading – Exodus 19:2-8a

Second Reading – Romans 5:1-8

Gospel – Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23]

June 21st

First Reading – Jeremiah 20:7-13

Second Reading – Romans 6:1b-11

Gospel – Matthew 10:24-39

June 28th

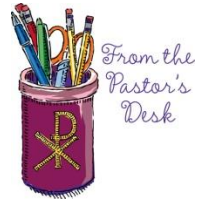
First Reading – Jeremiah 28:5-9

Second Reading – Romans 6:12-23

Gospel – Matthew 10:40-4

From the Pastor

We also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. – Romans 5:3-5



Dear People of God,

As I read Paul's words on suffering from his letter to the Romans, there is a part of me that says I have had enough of this suffering. I am so ready to move on and try to get back to normal. I am the type that avoids any kind of conflict and suffering. Instead of pushing forward, I would much rather hide myself away. So these past couple of months have been a huge challenge for me. Just when I was ready to throw in the towel, it seemed like God sent me a message to turn me around again.

This gentle reminder came to me through this month's edition of "Texas Monthly." On the cover page was a picture of one of my favorite authors, Brene Brown. Brene has done quite a bit of research on being vulnerable and her books are quite brilliant and informative, especially for this ostrich. To paraphrase her loosely, she would say that our imperfections and suffering bring us gifts.

I think that this is what Paul is getting at too! Suffering is not something that should be avoided, but when paired with faith, it can actually lead us to spiritual growth and confidence.

I believe that at the heart of Paul's message is that God doesn't wait to come to us when we are good enough, or strong enough or worthy enough. Instead, God comes to us and meets us in our struggles, our vulnerabilities, and in our sufferings and comforts us, strengthens us, and equips us with the gifts to reach out to others offering comfort and strength.

Because God is walking with us, we can boast in our sufferings because we know that God is leading us to endurance, character and hope. When we know that we are not alone, we will find a way to survive this and not just survive it, but to persevere and to even to thrive.

So my friends, don't throw in the towel. Don't give up. God is here! With God's help, we will get through this and we will get through this together. We might even be surprised to see the new ways that God has helped us to grow in faith, courage, confidence, and awareness of God's abiding grace.

In God's love and peace,
Pastor Jill

Pastor Jill's Adult Bible Study

Pastor Jill will be holding an adult bible ever Sunday @ 10:00am per Zoom. Please login on to enjoy this great fellowship time.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5946723016>

Meeting ID: 594 672 3016

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,5946723016# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,5946723016# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 594 672 3016

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5946723016>

A LITTLE DREAMING

As difficult as this past few months of gathering virtually has been, I believe that we have stumbled upon a new opportunity for ministry here at Salem. In streaming our worship services in the past couple of months, we have noticed people from far and near have been joining us in worship. Without realizing it or planning it, we have been reaching out to new folks! This is amazing!

Seeing this positive response has got us into the dreaming mode. We would like to continue this ministry and expand upon it once we begin worshipping in person. Currently we are in a makeshift mode, everything is being recorded and streamed through a cell phone. It requires someone to be upfront with the phone so that there is a close up shot of the service. When we return to worshipping in person, I am not sure if we can accommodate this kind of recording without distracting those who have gathered to worship

This is where the dreaming comes in! We have talked about the opportunity of setting up camera's within the worship space to live stream and record the service. Having the use of digital cameras would allow us to do what we are doing now but even better. It would eliminate the sound difficulties that we have been experiencing, we can zoom in and out as needed without physically positioning the phone, and so much more. The opportunities of how cameras can enhance our service are exciting!

We have received an estimate for the purchase of two cameras, one in the front and one in the back. The cost of this system is around \$25,000. There are funds available for the purchase but according to the constitution, the council only has authority to spend 5% of the budget, which is \$15,000. Anything more would have to go to a congregational vote.

With us not meeting in person yet, to take such a vote would be a delay in getting this new ministry up and going. The council is brainstorming possible ways reaching out and getting that vote done in this time of social distancing. For now, we just wanted to share our dream with you and keep you informed.

One last thing, we are forever thankful for Brittni Knebel and Cory Swor for taking the time to share their phones and talent in making our worship service available to you, the church. Thank you Both!!!!

REOPENING SALEM

The biggest question that is on folks 'minds is, when will we be able to gather in person again at Salem? The council met this past week and discussed this question. It was decided to set up a team of folks with medical backgrounds to research and plan what is needed to safely worship in person. We are currently reaching out to folks to serve in this capacity. Thank you for your patience! We will let you know when we think we can come together again here at Salem.



Senior Citizens Fellowship will meet Sunday, June 14, 2:00 p.m. the educational building. You are invited to come spend time together playing cards, dominoes, and having fellowship

We express our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of...

...Anthony Cook at the death of Rosey Cook on May 16. Rosey is the grandmother of Anthony.

...Ruth Hueske at her death on May 2. Ruth is the aunt of Milton Hueske, Luther Hueske, Mary Marshall, and Arthur Nordt.

...Matt Kwiatkowski and Lenny Kwiatkowski at the death of Gale Kwiatkowski on April 27. Gail is the mother of Matt and Lenny.

Financial Highlights for April

Income: General Fund -	\$25,332	Total General Fund Expenses	\$19,149
Thrivent Choice Dollars -	2,384	Building Fund Expenses	888
Building Fund -	<u>53</u>	Total Expenses	<u>\$20,037</u>
Total	\$27,769		
Expenses:		<u>Assets:</u>	
Mission Work	\$1,500	General Fund	\$ 7,364
Pastor Jill Compensation	7,095	Thrivent Choice Funds	\$ 11,355
Administrative Asst. Compensation	3,848	Building Fund	\$ 116,825
Worship/Program	1,478	Special Memorial Fund	\$ 350,562
Utilities/Maintenance	<u>5,228</u>	Schaefer Fund	\$ 286,523
General Fund Sub-Total	\$19,149	Trust Fund Assets	\$ 244,657
Non-Budgeted Misc.	-0-	Memorial-Recreation Bldg.	<u>\$ 20,916</u>
Thrivent Choice Dollars	<u>0</u>	Total Assets	<u>\$1,038,202</u>

Thank You Notes

Thank you so much to Salem's WELCA for the beautiful flowers. They look so pretty on my kitchen bar, and I am truly appreciative of the flowers. Thank you again. I love my Salem family.

Brittni

Dear Fellow Members,

Thank you so much for the get well cards and prayers. Sorry it's taken me so long to say that. They mean so much to me. Hope to see you all soon.

Margie Fougeron

Pastor Jill & Salem Family,

Thank you for all the calls, visits, texts, cards, during my recent illness. I am doing much better.

In Christ Name,

Rhonda Wehmeyer

Received a thank you note from the outreach committee of St. Peters for the food from the food drive. They got about 100lbs of food from the donations.

Church Council Highlights

The Church Council at its meeting:

- 1/ heard report for cleaning of cemetery Otto Kemper going to get a report on the cost.
- 2/ video camera still looking at cost.
- 3/ forming a committee to work on sanitizing church, seating, communion, and an opening date.
- 4/ cleaning companies have been changed back to Colwell per council on the first of June.



Men's Breakfast will meet Tuesday, June 2, 6:30 a.m. at Kountry Bakery Restaurant. All men of Salem and their guests are invited for fellowship and breakfast.

All Aboard for the ROCKY RAILWAY!!!!!!



Mark your calendars for July 19th – 23rd for Salem's VBS

*****IFD Team is currently working to bring you a whole**

NEW VBS Experience



*****Watch Facebook, Reminds, and next month's newsletter for more details**

*****Want to Teach or Guide our youth – Contact Brittni or Cory for details**

On Our Prayer List

The people below have requested our prayers and support. We pray for them every Sunday in worship and we invite you to remember them in your daily prayers.

In an effort to keep our prayer list updated, please let us know about your family or friends whose names can be removed from this prayer list@

Remember these folks in your daily prayers:

Salem members: Lois Albright, Hildegard Brinkmeyer, Megan Burch, Thomas Cook, Margie Fougeron, Clarence Hodde, Lloyd Pieper, Matt Pieper, Florine Raska, Louis Resendez, Ruth Rodenbeck, Louis Schwarze Jr., Betty Vierus, Mark Wiesepape, Rhonda Wehmeyer

Members requesting prayers: Jeannie Finke, Hunter Schaper

Members in Care Centers:

Brenham Nursing & Rehab - Esther Klump

Kruse Village - Franklin & Evelyn Menn

Colonial Bell Nursing Home (Bellville)- Roy Schmidt

High Hope - Karen Koester

Members in Assisted Living Facility -

Argent Court -Dorothy Addicks, Annie Marie Fritz, Helen Nienstedt

Family and Friends:

Andrea A. Abat, friend to Bruce Bockhorn;

Gerry Banik, Nora Mills' friend;

Jan Banik, Nora Mills' friend;

Tina Bartsch, Thana & Otto Kemper's niece;

Bernice Bates, sister of Louis Schwarze, Ruth & Helen

Rodenbeck, sister-in-law of Shirley Schwarze;

David Beckendorf, friend of Cindy Holle;

Susan Bolten, mother of Chance Bolten;

Tammy Brauner, aunt of Grover Sebastian;

Keith Brooks, brother-in-law to Jason & Tasha Ladewig;

Dan Bunker, father to Danica Kenjura;

Terri Burnett, friend of Charles & Janell Dierking;

Theresa Clemons, sister of Nora Mills;

Ashley Curry, friend of Carly Becker family;

Pastor Bill Derrick, friend of Salem Members;

Rev. Dennis Dirks, former Pastor to Diana Hodde;

Samuel Engman, Nancy Roesler's friends' grandson;

Ashley Evans, friend of Salem Member's

Carol Fenton, friend of Salem Member's Rev Phil Fenton's wife

France Glueck, great-niece to Mitch & Carolyn Hall;

Shawn Grimm, wife of Brett Grimm;

Betty Haevischer wife of Gary Haevischer and daughter of Dorothy Hupe;

Mattie Haines, friend of Nancy Roesler;

Ronald Hartmann, friend of Charles Hirsch;

Harold Hebson, Bruce Bockhorn's friend;

Austin Hinesley, Nephew of Chance & Wendy Bolten;

JoAnn Hundemer, friend of Nancy Roesler;

Wilfred Hupe, father of Alice Birkelbach;

Dena Janish, Delbert Ladewig's sister;

Pat Jozwiak, friend of Nancy Roesler;

Patsy Kasproicz, co-worker to Nora Mills;

Brylon Kelly, son to Crystal Kelly & grandson to Nora Mills;

Dan Kelly, Janell Dierking's friend's husband;

Leigh Kieke, Daryl & Kathy Gummelt's friend;

Marsha Killen, mother to Billy Killen;

Esther Klatte, aunt of Sandra Sebastian;

Barbara Kokemoor, friend of Doris Draehn;

Gary Krueger, brother-in-law of Betty Thomas & Christine Pieper;

Larry Lischka, friend of Roy & Linda Acebo

Willie Ludwig, friend of Charles & Janell Dierking;

Irene Machel, friend of Louis Jr. & Maxine Schwarze;

Jennifer Manis, Norma Mills daughter-in-laws sister;

Gary Martin, friend of Bruce Bockhorn;

Charlie McReynold, friend of Bruce Bockhorn;

Melanie Meyers, friend of Tiffany Weiss;

Robert Murski, friend of Perry Thomas;

Aaron Nelson, Lynette Nelson's husband & Janet & Joseph Green's son-in-law;

Bill Nowicki, friend of Charles & Janell Dierking;

Lauren Parker, friend of Jeanell Dallmeyer;

Wesley Paul, Janell Dierking's God Child;

Charles Pyle, friend of Ray & Tiffany Weiss;

Katie Ray, granddaughter of Marsha Ray;

Jason Reed, Nora Mill's great nephew;

Doug Schreiber, cousin of Danica Kenjura;

Sue Schwartz, cousin to Jeanell Dallmeyer;

Aiden Simmons, Nora Mills' great great nephew;

Nicki Stone, friend of the Pittman family;

Mike Taylor, friend of Ray & Tiffany Weiss;

Amy Usalavage, Larry & Diane Ashorn's niece;

Sue Vierus, co-worker of teachers at Krause Elementary;

Choya Walling, friend of Bruce Bockhorn;

Boyce Weiman, Michael Ray's father-in-law;

Glenn Wellbrock, brother of Leonard, Kenny, & Ricky Wellbrock, & Beverly Schlabach;

Shannon Wellmann, friend of Ronnie Becker family;

Marcie Whitmire, Tiffany Weiss' cousin;

Sandy Winkelmann, Kenneth and David Dreyer's sister;

Military Personnel: Salem members: Craig Flentge (Air Force, Colorado), Shane Shupak (Army Reserves, Texas).

Family and Friends: Eric Amundson (Marines, Texas) [family

friend of Bruce Bockhorn]; Jay Bateman (Air Force, McGill

AFB, FL) [Frances Bockhorn's granddaughter's husband];

Mitchel Havard (Army, Germany) [Clarence Meinholdt

family's friend]; Brent Lanier (Army, Fort Bliss, El Paso)

[Chris Ann Stroeck's cousin]; Seth McPherson (Army, North

Carolina) [relative of Helen Ladewig family]; John Morris

(Army, Ft. Leavenworth, KA) [Carobeth Bockhorn's former

student]; Catherine Nelson (USAF; Ghana) [Frances

Bockhorn's granddaughter]; Jonathan Oberrender (Marines,

California) [Stacie Oberrender's son]; Cody Paul (Air Force,

San Antonio, TX) [Charles Dierking family's friends]; Kurtis

Reeves (Army, Arizona) [relative of Helen Ladewig family];

Barron D. Stone (Air Force, Patrick AFB, FL) [Bruce

Bockhorn's friend's son

Greetings From:
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
1500 Salem Rd.
Brenham TX 77833-6958

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Reaching out to:

Mission Statement of Salem Lutheran Church

As Christ's Disciples, we strive to love and serve all people, sharing the good news of God's grace.

WELCA Notes



Circle meetings: Dorcas Circle – cancelled until further notice
Rachel Circle – June 4, 7:00 p.m. at Salem Education Building,
hosted by Betty Wiesepepe
Visiting Committee members for June are: Doris Eckermann and Judy Matula

Since I do not have a lot to report, I thought I would share this poem. It was written by Laura Fanucci from Minnesota. Enjoy!

"When this is over, may we never again take for granted a handshake with a stranger,
full shelves at the store, conversations with neighbors, a crowded theater Friday night out,
the taste of communion, a routine checkup, the school rush each morning, coffee with a friend,
the stadium roaring, each deep breath, a boring Tuesday Life itself. When this ends may we find
that we have become more like the people we wanted to be we were called to be we hoped to be
and may we stay that way — better for each other because of the worst."

God's Blessing Be With You All! Thana Kemper

**Seniors please watch the reminds, Facebook, and emails for a time of celebration for
your graduation.**