



# **Salem Lutheran Church**

## Happy Mother's Day

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue." PROVERBS 31:25-26



**May 2020**

# Pastor's Page

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I miss you all so very much! The last month plus has not been easy. It was the strangest Holy Week ever. Leading services with no one in the building was tough. Coming into Easter Morning knowing that there would be no extra lift-me-up-joy in the building was difficult, but the message was and is the same. Jesus is Alive. Jesus lives for you! That is the message that gives us hope.



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You have all most likely experienced some very disheartening disappointments or will be soon. Proms cancelled, graduation plans scrapped, vacations postponed or cancelled. Confirmation postponed. Church events cancelled. Senior years cut short. Sports seasons suspended. You are unable to visit family. You miss your friends. You miss your parents who are living in nursing homes. You miss your spouse who is in the nursing home. You have lost jobs. You have missed birthdays, anniversaries and holidays. These are difficult and disappointing days.

Yet the days are full of hope. They are full of hope in the fact that Christ is alive. The days are full of hope as you look around and you see new life bursting forth from the ground. Grass is greening up. The rhubarb is coming up from the ground. Flowers are pushing forth. The buds on the trees are growing bigger. The ice is out on the lakes. Springtime is here! Springtime shows us that life continues to go on.

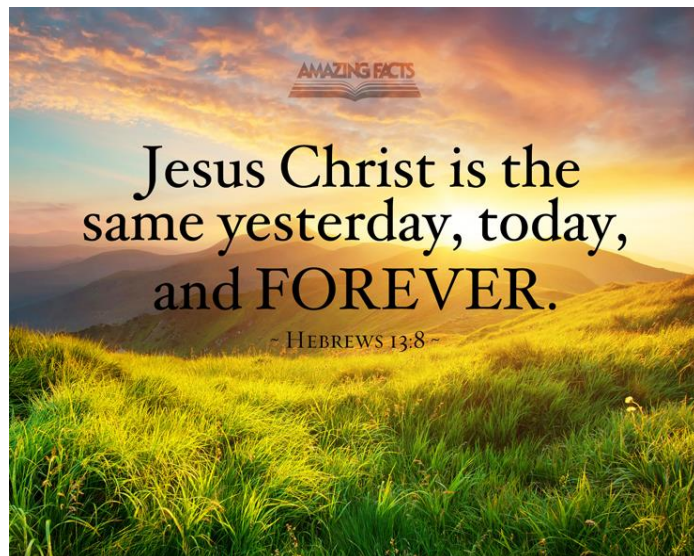


The days are full of hope, because even though you have many disappointments, there are many things that remains the same. You have a roof over your heads, you have food on the table, water to drink, and clothes to wear. You have a community of people that love you even at a distance. You are all part of families that I pray are remaining strong during these days. There is one more thing that remains the same. Your Savior. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever! We also hear from Peter and Isaiah in the scriptures, "The Word of God Endures forever!"

We have much to lean on during these days, even when many other things are currently not within reach!

I pray that I get to see you all very soon in church!

Your Shepherd,  
*Pastor Nielsen*



**P.S. Just a few updates on what is happening at Salem during these days.**

- 1) Worship is on Facebook Live at 9 AM on Sundays. You can also use our call-in line. If you have long-distance included on your phone, please use: 1-715-438-4200**



- 2) Bible Study will be on Sundays at 10:15 AM via Zoom and then posted later to Facebook.**
- 3) Small group communion is still suspended. I am currently praying about this and re-evaluating each week.**
- 4) Thank you for your offerings so far. Even during these days, we still need to be supporting our church and her ministry. Please keep mailing them in, dropping them off at the church, and using the e-giving portal.**
- 5) Confirmation and Confirmation Questioning is postponed. We will let everyone know when this is rescheduled.**

### **Joint Elders and Council Meeting of April 1, 2020**

President John Steele called the meeting to order and Pastor Nielsen led us in prayer.

Elders and Council were present via Zoom or telephone.

Stan Koenig gave an update on the call in line which seems to be working well. Because of the high volume of users on the line recently, as well as in the foreseeable future, it was suggested to increase the number of minutes to 10,000 useable minutes. This would come at a cost of \$70.00 per month plus tax. It should be noted that we can change our minute amounts needed at any time. Chris Severt made the motion to increase our minute usage to 10,000, totaling \$70.00 per month plus tax, seconded by Tim Dennis and motion carried.

Board of Ed: Met Wednesday. Advised four applicants were interviewed and the Board of Ed agreed on the top candidate. Requested a Congregational Meeting be scheduled for reasons of finances, hiring process, etc. The Council and Elders will need to seek out Salem's Constitution to see how Salem needs to address these issues. Chris Severt shared financial information he received from a local bank as far as interest rates and such. Maryann Thompson reported Any Beckendorf is preparing a power point presentation at it relates to the daycare. Decided on a presentation via Facebook on April 15, 2020, with a Congregational Voter's Meeting on April 26, 2020, in the church parking lot. Be advised, pursuant to the health crisis, the April 26th, meeting is tentative and District will notify us whether or not we can proceed with the meeting or if we need to reschedule. In any event, need a vote on a business loan as it relates to our day care/preschool financial needs and the congregation's approval to spend monies. The Board of Ed will be contacting the director position candidates with a status of Salem's intentions. Further, a notice/agenda will be sent out to the congregation two weeks prior to the April 26th, Congregational Voter's Meeting. Again, the April 26th, meeting is obviously subject to change due to the current Coronavirus health crisis.

Discussed ways of cutting back costs for Salem since the building is not currently being used. Those cuts have been made such as turning off the heat in the sanctuary as well as the Sunday School area downstairs. Tom Lipke will be checking with Independent Garbage Service to see what rates they would give us to see if their services would be cheaper than the services Republic Service is providing Salem for garbage pickup. Tom will further see what rates would be if we had garbage picked up less often than we are currently doing.

Stan Koenig advised he purchased a computer in the amount of \$619.00 for the financial bookkeeper. May want to purchase Quick Books at some point.

Josh Millerman advised he has not yet received anything back from Arrow Building Center nor from Bill Balts and will be getting a bid from another contractor. In order to get the bids back from the contractors need to first hear what material costs are from Arrow Building along with Arrow Building plans. The health crisis no doubt is having an effect on getting this information in a more timely manner but hopefully this information can be obtained in time for the April 26th, meeting.

A motion was made by Chris Severt, seconded by Tim Dennis to adjourn and motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes by Kelly Cornelius

## **Council Meeting of April 14, 2020**

President John Steele called the meeting to order and Pastor Nielsen led us in prayer.

Present via Zoom and phone: President John Steele, Pastor Nielsen, Vicepresident Chris Severt, Treasurer Stan Koenig, Board of Ed Maryann Thompson, Elder Tim Dennis, Trustee Tom Lipke, and Secretary Kelly Cornelius.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Kelly Cornelius read the Council Meeting minutes of March 10, 2020. A motion was made by Chris Severt, seconded by Tim Dennis to accept the minutes as read and motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Stan Koenig reported the March Financial Summary as follows: General Fund balance as of March 1, 2030, in the amount of \$5,359.45. General Fund income of \$11,394.62 and expenses at \$10,409.60 for a balance as of March 31, 2020, of \$4,374.43. Missions: \$765.00. Building Fund: 486.00. Sunday School: \$62.94. Thrivent Choice Dollars of \$1,348.00. The playground balance to be paid is now at \$1,047.95. Ring Central costs for March: \$399.90. Checking account at Sterling Bank of \$38,466.99 and savings account at \$14,193.52. LCEF Building Fund: \$20,225.36. The General Fund (4101) for January to March is \$31,589.28. A motion was made by Tim Dennis, seconded by Chris Severt to accept the Treasurers Report and motion carried.

Elders' Report: The "Listen to Church" service line seems to be working well. A new computer has been purchased for finances. Average attendance for March (three services) was 86, with midweek services averaging 47. March communion was 69 and 60. Pastor made four nursing home visits before the no visitor policy. Pastor called shut-ins and sent Portals of Prayer. Al Klug's burial was March 29, 2020, and there was a Baptism the same day. When possible, there will be public acknowledgement of these services. There were some family communions in March. The Voter's Meeting will be on April 26, 2020, if the "Safer at Home" mandate is over. If it is still in effect, the meeting will be postponed. E-giving is available. A number of checks are arriving by mail. Salem received a \$1,150 check from Thrivent. Pastor is going through the church roster, phoning members to touch base and check on everybody. This takes time. It was suggested that each elder take a portion of the church roster and call once or twice a month, in addition to Pastor's calls. This will be tried. Pastor will try and improve the transmission of services over Facebook. The service location may be changed to the Fellowship Hall for better transmission. A motion was made by Stan Koenig, seconded by Tim Lipke to accept the Elders Report and motion carried.

Trustee's Report: Items that were cleaned out of the rooms to the east were hauled out to the shelter. Tom checked with Independent Garbage Service and found their services to be the same in costs as that of Republic Services. As such, Salem will remain with Republic Services for garbage pickup. Tom said a few people were needed to assist with cleaning up Salem's lawn. A motion was made by Chris Severt, seconded Stan Koenig to accept the Trustee's Report and motion carried.

Board of Ed: Maryann Thompson reported the Sunday School teachers have dropped off packets to the Sunday School children. There will be no Easter Egg hunt this year at Salem. The Thrivent Choice Dollars of \$250 for that event can be used next year. For VBS, another \$250 Choice Dollars will be obtained.

Chris Severt brought up VBS currently scheduled for June. After Council discussed the health situation we are dealing with, it was decided to cancel VBS for this summer. The materials purchased for this year's VBS will be used next year.

Pastor's Report:

Advised as we go forward during this time, we need to keep in mind Salem's Mission Statement. Pastor's summer schedule is up in the air due to the health crisis. Winkle was cancelled for March. Catechism has proceeded via Zoom. Updated Council on bible classes. Pastor did not see any shut-ins but has gone through the alphabet, calling Congregational members to make contact with them. Pastor reported Camp Luther is struggling and is in need of support. The Cupboard and Closet food side is currently open, continuing to provide food to children. Gave update on Salem's website/Facebook in that information can be obtained on the Coronavirus and sermons in written format. Working on improving technology for church services. Received \$807.00 in E-giving in March. Pastor received a phone call from David Garm who is part of a Music Ministry Family that is touring Missouri Synod Churches this year. In that conversation, Mr. Garm advised Pastor they could be in Barron on July 17, 2020. More discussion on what this would look like. Pastor reported Jen Millerman and Scott Quieser are looking at purchasing a new computer program as it is difficult to transfer data from the old computer to the new one. After Council discussed this issue, a motion was made by Tim Dennis, seconded by Maryann Thompson to allow monies to be spent not to exceed \$400 for the software accounting program and motion carried. A motion was made by Tim Dennis, seconded by Chris Severt to accept Pastor's Report and motion carried.

Stan Koenig advised he has been working to improve streaming services.

A motion was made by Chris Severt, seconded by Tom Lipke to adjourn and motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes by Secretary Kelly Cornelius.



## **VBS Cancellation**

Due to the uncertainty of COVID 19 restriction we have decided to cancel VBS this year. We will be using our 2020 Concordia material and theme, Rainforest Explorers, next year.



### **Needs List:**

**Catechisms \$13/book**

**Study Bibles \$40/book**

**Certificate Frames \$4/frame**

**Air Conditioning**

**Lamp for organ \$250 - \$400**

**Church Computers - \$600 per computer (replacing 1 every 2 years)**

**Faith Alive Bibles \$26/book**

**Additional Hymnals \$27/book**

**Baptism Frames \$4/frame**

**Convex Mirror \$50 - \$200**

**Music Stands \$50 - \$200**

**Playground Balance as of the end of March: \$1047.50 is needed to pay this off!**

**Please see the church office before ordering/purchasing any of these items. Any amount of money can be donated toward an item on the needs list.**

### **Prayer Requests for:**

**Agnes, Bonnie, Carol, Char, Don, Elsie, Etta, Frances, Gail & Roxann,  
Gene, Harrison, Joan, Joyce, Ken, Ken, Lenard, Lois, Louise, Marlene,  
Michelle, Roger, Vi, Wilma, Wyatt, Salem's home bound,**



**May 6:** Mark Garrett

**May 9:** Lucille Wood

**May 14:** Kristina Dennis & Albert Starck

**May 19:** Holly Johnson

**May 23:** Brayden Weinert

**May 24:** Stacey Bisnotte & Owen Metz

**May 25:** Richard Snyder

**May 30:** Pastor Mueller

**May 1: Jim & Gwen Metcalf**

**May 5: Herb & Deloris Zabel**

**May 6: Daniel & Lisa Dennis**

**May 16: Tim & Paula Dennis**

**May 20: Terry & Marlene Kirkman**

**May 22: Mark & Jeanette Garrett**

**May 27: Trevor & Sarah Duncan**



## How to Contact Us

Pastor Michael Nielsen – (218) 280-0999

Pastor's Email – [rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com](mailto:rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com)

Office – (715) 537-3011

John Steele (715) 303-7502

Preschool – (715) 537-3011 ext.14

Mary Ann Wheeler, Parish Musician – (715) 205-1158

Church Service Phone –1 (888) 505-1870

Church Email: [salemmos@chibardun.net](mailto:salemmos@chibardun.net)

**Salem's New Web Page Is:** <https://www.salembarron.com/>

Click on enter the following link and follow the prompts to support Salem.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-6137330>

### May Greeters

3 – Steve & Marlene Amdall

10 – Bonnie Brown

17 – Mark Dennis Family

24 – Aaron Mickelson Family

31 – Marilyn Otto

### May Elders

3 – Stan Koenig

10 – Josh Millerman

17 – Tim Dennis

24 – Trevor Duncan

31 – Don Duncan

### May Ushers

**Mark Dennis**

Damen Dennis

Aaron Mickelson

Zackary Mickelson

Brady Mickelson

### May/June Leaders

**Carol Shearer**

**715-822-4375**

**Lucille Wood**

**715-637-6606**

Steve & Marlene Amdall

715-637-7758

Daniel Dennis

715-637-4604

Shawn Dennis

715-205-1807

Tim & Paula Dennis

715-837-1708

Mary Oscarson

612-790-5464

Holly Johnson

715-637-7758

Sue Weise

715-837-1555

Frieda Lentz

715-637-5997

Tom & Debbie Lipke

715-458-4712

Scott Queiser

715-837-1371

Melissa Miller

715-641-0263

Earl & Aimee Starck

715-637-3482

Debbie Church

715-637-4744

Rusty & Melissa Weise

715-764-2084

**May Altar Guild: Kelly Cornelius**

### Coffee Schedule

3 – Marcia Elliott & Stan & Nancy Koenig

10 – Jim & Lori Crawford

17 – Workgroups

24 – Trevor & Sarah Duncan

31 – Teacher Appreciation









# May 2020

Update: All Events are cancelled, suspended, or postponed until further notice. Worship Services are at 9:00 AM via Facebook Live or the Call-in Line. Sunday Bible Study is on Zoom at 10:15 AM. Committee, Council, and Board meetings are all via Zoom.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 White 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:15 SS/Bible Class	4 7:00 pm Elders	5 8:00am Men's Bible Class	6 4-5pm Confirmation	7 Noon Bible Class	8	9
10 White 9:00 am Worship Examination Sunday! 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class 	11	12 7:00am Men's Bible Class 10am Winkle - Immanuel, Cedar Lake 7:00pm Council	13 4-5pm Confirmation	14 Noon Bible Class	15	16
17 Red 9:00 am Communion Worship 9:00 am Confirmation 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 	18	19 8:00am Men's Bible Class 10:00 am BACA	20	21 Noon Bible Class	22	23
24 White 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	25	26 8:00am Men's Bible Class	27	28 Noon Bible Class	29	30
31 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 SS/Bible Class Last Day of Sunday School 3:30 - 5:30 Youth Group						

# Congratulations 2020 HS Graduates!

This year looks different; you have missed out on many senior traditions, but do know that God is with you and will take care of you!



**Samuel Beckendorf**

Graduate of Barron High School

Attending: Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC)

Major: HVAC Technician



**Zachary Beckendorf**

Graduate of Barron High School

Attending: University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Major: Environmental Engineering



**Brooke Hammann**

Graduate of Barron High School

Attending: Northcentral Technical College – Wausau

Major: Nursing



**Hunter Johnson**

Graduate of Barron High School

Working: Rice Lake Weighing

Finishes Welding program in June 2020

# Congratulations 2020 College Graduates



**Kaitlynn Klimek**

WITC-New Richmond – May 15, 2020

Associates Degree-Registered Nurse



**Tessa Church**

UW-Eau Claire – Dec. 21, 2019

Bachelor of Science – Kinesiology

Beginning @ UW LaCrosse – Doctor of Physical

Therapy on May 26



**Amanda Quieser**

UM – Duluth – May 8, 2020

Bachelor of Applied Arts

Teaching Arts and Literature

Bachelor of Arts - English

