

Salem Lutheran Church Childcare and Preschool

Blessed

is the family who delights in the **Word** of the **Lord**, and meditates on it day and night.

The family will be like a tree planted by streams of water, **yielding fruit** in its season.

Psalms 1

August 2023

Pastor's Page

Dear Family of God,

Earlier this year we did a survey to see where we were really at as a congregation. We had 42 people complete the surveys for Salem as can be seen in the graphic included in the article. I am sure that this graphic does not surprise you to see that we are in the third quadrant in the tapering stage. As you see this, I do not want you to

Congregational Assessment of Development and Decline Status
Salem Luth. Ch. - Barron, WI

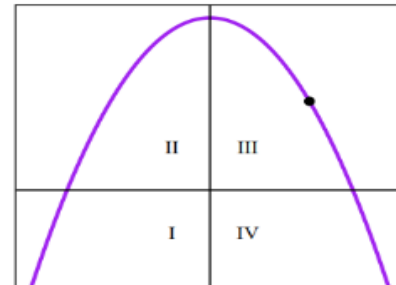


This report presents a snapshot of the sentiment of **42 people** from your congregation. Your position on the curve is based on your scores in the following factors of vitality.

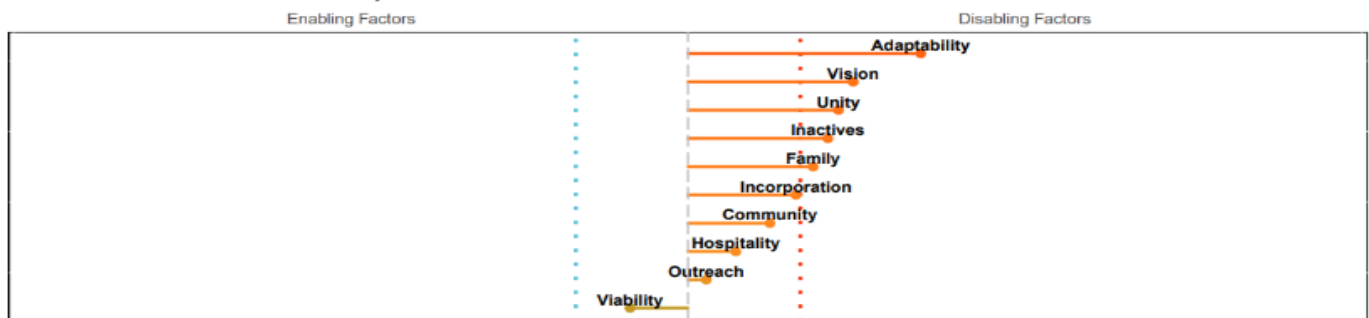
Factors of Vitality

Scale	Description
Adaptability	How willing we are to make necessary changes
Community	How willing we are to engage the community around us
Family	How well we minister to families and children
Hospitality	How welcoming and responsive we are to our visitors and guests
Inactives	How well we serve our inactive members
Incorporation	How well we help our members get involved in our ministries
Outreach	How effectively we reach out to people outside of the church
Unity	How well we get along and our overall morale
Viability	How confident we are about being able to continue our ministry
Vision	How strong our sense of our mission and purpose is

Your overall result:
Tapering



Standardized results in each factor of vitality:



be discouraged, we are not alone in this category. With God's help we can change and grow in this place again.

In the results you will also see what the ReVitality team labels as disabling factors. Many of these, if not all of them we can change with God's help. Remember, just a few weeks ago I preached on how God's Word works every time it goes forth. We are the ones that plant and water and cultivate, God is the one that gives the growth. He has called each of us to Salem for this moment.

The Synod in their ReVitality process for churches across our



Resource Guidance

Factor	re:Vitality Resource
Adaptability	Serving in God's Mission
Community	Connect To Disciple; Creating Community Connections*
Family	<i>A Child Shall Lead Them*</i> ; <i>Gracious Hosts*</i>
Hospitality	<i>Gracious Hosts*</i>
Inactives	Shepherding Our Strays
Incorporation	Members of One Body
Outreach	Connect To Disciple; Beyond the Classroom* ; <i>A Child Shall Lead Them*</i>
Unity	<i>One Flock, Many Sheep*</i> ; Serving in God's Mission
Viability	Serving in God's Mission; Members of One Body
Vision	Serving in God's Mission

*Planned resource – not yet available

nation is in the development process of modules that congregations can go through to help them in the process of changing and growing. In the second graphic that I have included you will see the modules that are either published or are being planned to aid congregations in each of the areas of ministry.

As the Church Council and Elders have looked at these results, it was decided to go through the Module Serving in God's Mission. Over the past two months in the newsletter I have been discussing a Strategic Plan, I might even call it a Ministry Plan or a ministry road map. This map will help every one in the congregation move forward together in ministry.

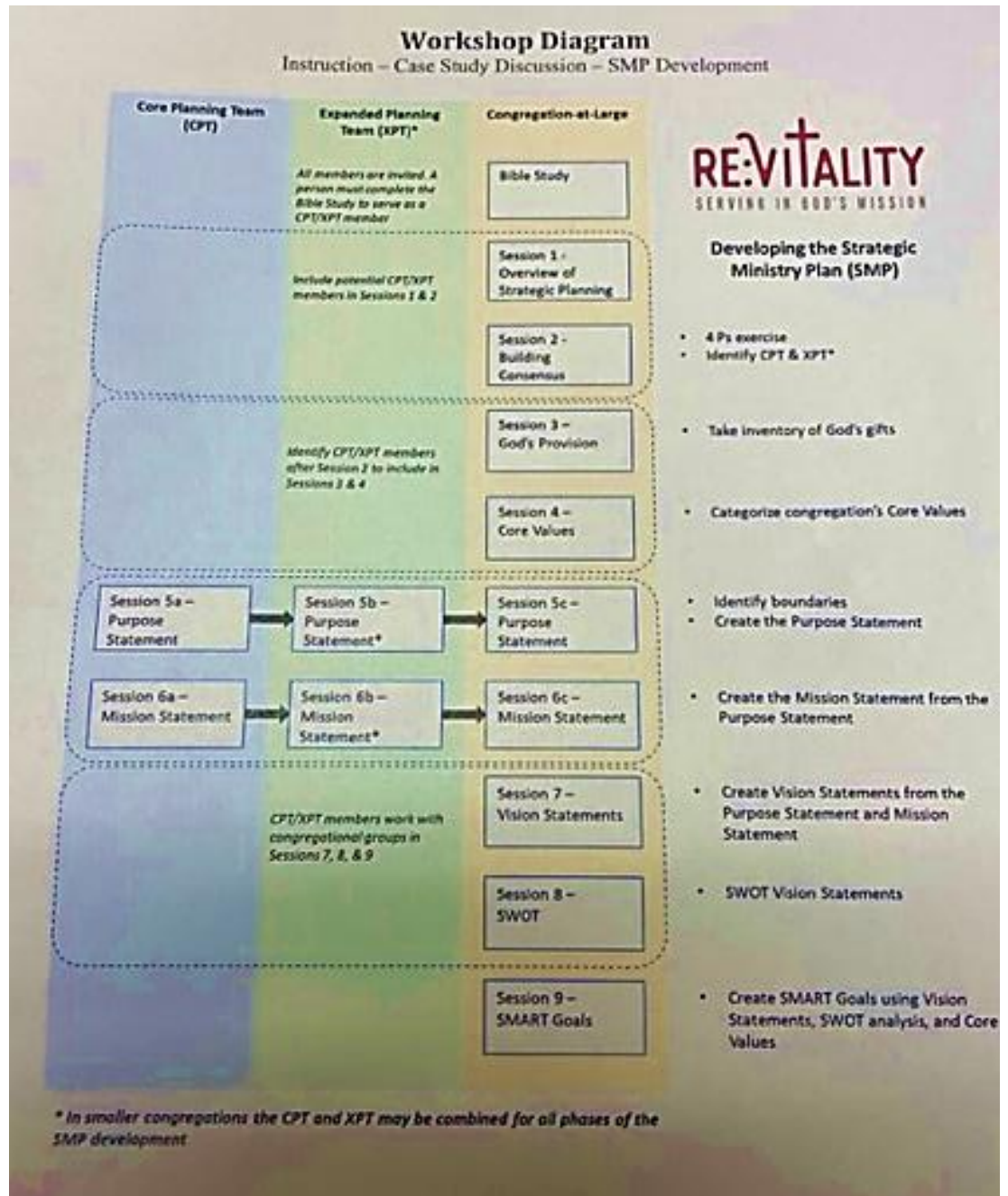
I have emphasized to the leaders of Salem, that this is not going to pastor's plan, the council's plan, or the Elder's plan. This is going to be Salem's plan. Everyone of us will need to work together to come up with where we want to go in the next coming years of ministry at Salem, here in Barron, WI.

There are some specific steps that are going to take place in the coming months. Before I explain the steps, I want you to all be praying for this process. This is going to take hard work on all of our parts. It's going to take dedication. It will also take more hours here at church to come up with the plan...and then we will together need to carry out the plan with God's Help.

The first step as I wrote about in July is to go through a pre-workshop Bible Study. We will be doing this in the month of September. I encourage every member to be a part of this and take ownership in this. This is your congregation.

The next steps will roll out in October and go through the end of the year. It is my prayer

that we will have a Ministry Plan to begin in 2024. I am providing another graphic that shows what this process looks like. It will look confusing at first, but in time, it will begin to look familiar. In this Strategic Plan, we will have two smaller teams called the Core Planning Team, and the Expanded Planning Team. These two



teams will help navigate the process and help put all your ideas together as we approve of our congregational plan together. These two teams will also make up a cross section of the congregation that are willing to spend some extra time helping in this process. If you are interested in being on one of these team, please talk to pastor.

Towards the end of August there will be sign-up sheet for going through this process together. This is so that I can order the correct number of materials for the best stewardship of our congregation and the Synod. These resources are provided free of charge to the congregation to aid in our ministry here.

Continue to keep all of us, our congregation and her ministry in your prayers as we go through this process!

In His Service,

Rev. Michael Nielsen

Special Voters Meeting 7/9/2023

Council Members Present: Pastor Michael Nielsen, Head Elder Don Duncan, Treasurer MaryAnn Thompson, President John Steele, Trustee Tom Lipke, Board of Education Chris Severt

Council Members Absent: Secretary Sarah Duncan

31 congregation members present. List attached.

John Steele called the meeting to order. Pastor said a prayer.

Tom Lipke explained the altar guild room repairs that need to be done. Bill Balts is going to do the work. Cost \$5-8000 to put a new pitched roof on. Stan Koenig wants any leftover money to fix the ceiling in the altar guild room. Don Duncan wants the job capped at \$8000 - if it goes over that, we need to vote again. Chris Severt made a motion to approve the altar guild room roof repairs and the motion was seconded by Tim Dennis and the motion carried.

Josh Millerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Stan Koenig seconded it.

Minutes by Sarah Duncan

Council Meeting 7/11/2023

Present: Pastor Michael Nielsen, Head Elder Don Duncan, Secretary Sarah Duncan, Treasurer MaryAnn Thompson, President John Steele, Trustee Tom Lipke, Board of Education Chris Severt, Vice President Josh Millerman

Pastor led us in devotional and prayer.

Secretary Report: A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the minutes from 6/20/2023 and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Treasurer Report: MaryAnn Thompson advised the June 2023 financial summary as follows:

General fund balance as of 5/31/2023: \$58165.44 Income: \$9997.35 Expenses: \$-9704.84 Net income: \$292.51. General Fund balance as of 6/30/2023: \$58457.95. Envelope Giving for June: General Fund Envelopes: \$7710 Missions: \$503 Building Fund: \$443 Gifts and memorials: \$1300 Sunday School offering: \$0 YFM Sunday School Missions: \$23 Daycare income (envelopes) \$212 Air Conditioning: \$100 Vacation Bible School: \$0 Oil Well Schultz: \$0 Interest Income: \$18.35 Amazon Smile: \$0 Lutheran Hour: \$0 Cemetery Fund \$0 Thrivent Choice Dollars \$0 Current Bank Accounts: Salem Church Checking: \$40054.45 Savings: \$17336.07 Daycare Checking: \$51915.30 LCEF (Building Fund) Account: \$33140.51 Daycare Loan Balance: \$86866.15. Hoff Financial Services raised their rates. Council agrees that the rate increase is warranted. Council approved the cost will be split 50/50 with the daycare. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Elder's Report: Don Duncan advised that there are no new transfers or releases. Discussed the elder's August schedule. Discussed emergency plan packet. Discussed safety measures on the altar. Handicap parking discussions. Discussed calling tree in emergency situations. A motion was made by Tom Lipke to accept the report and seconded by Chris Severt and motion carried.

Trustee's Report: Tom Lipke advised that the carpets are clean. Bill Balts has accepted the job to do the repairs on the altar guild room and it will be done by the end of fall. Run off from the roof is what's causing the lower parking lot to deteriorate faster and the entire lower lot needs to be replaced. Windows will be cleaned soon. Cleaning inside not scheduled yet. Old chairs will be free for congregation members to take. A motion was made by Don Duncan to accept the report and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Board of Education: Chris Severt advised that there are no updates since last council meeting to discuss.

Pastor's Report: We read together the mission statement of Salem. Men's bible study: Daniel, Thursday bible study: Did Jesus Commit Suicide, Sunday morning bible study: various texts of the lectionary. Longmires will be teaching 5th & 6th grade catechism class. Revitality strategic planning is in the planning stage. Lois Klug family donated money for a new computer and light for the organ. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the report and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

Old Business: NONE

New Business: There will be no annual picnic this year because YFM & Daycare will be serving food at Music in the Park on August 23. The congregation is invited to come down to the park at 4:30pm that day to enjoy the meal and enjoy the entertainment.

A motion was made by Chris Severt to adjourn the meeting and seconded by MaryAnn Thompson.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Minutes by Sarah Duncan



This year YFM/Childcare is serving a meal in the park on August 23rd for Music in the Park. Proceeds will go to our Childcare Center Mission. This will be replacing our Annual Picnic at church. Everyone is invited to come for a pulled pork, coleslaw and chips meal before the music



August 2: Grant Stabenow

August 5: Judy Church & Jeff Kolba

August 8: Cathy Davis, Eli Bisonette, & Isaac Duncan

August 9: Isaac Mickelson

August 10: Janee Anderson, Charlotte Hermann, & Cindy Wright

August 13: Kassandra Rivard

August 15: Duane Longmire

August 16: Jeanne Perala

August 17: Mark Dennis & Shyanne Hammann

August 18: Matthew Thompson

August 19: Jeremy Millerman & Delilah Queiser

August 20: Kathy Mueller

August 21: Jeanette Garrett, Shirley Hehl, & Carol Shearer

August 24: Kelly Mueller & Hunter Mueller

August 25: Wilma Fink

August 28: Chris Mueller

August 29: Ike Bisonette

August 30: Randy Church, Rick Church, & Jeff McGowan





AUGUST 6: RANDY & SUE CHURCH

AUGUST 8: DEAN & KIM HANSON

AUGUST 14: EARL & AMEE STARCK

AUGUST 15: BRAD & CAROL KUCHERA

AUGUST 19: DWAYNE & DENISE STABENOW & NATHAN & ALICIA KIRKMAN

AUGUST 21: DAVID & CINDY STEEL

AUGUST 23: PASTOR & KATHY MUELLER

AUGUST 27: JOHN & EMILY STEELE

AUGUST 30: CHRISTOPHER & JOLENE SEVERT

Baptism Birthday

August 2: Payten Severt

August 24: Isaac Duncan



How to Contact Us

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Office – (715) 537-3011

Preschool – (715) 537-3011 ext.14

Church Service Phone –1 (888) 505-1870

Church Email: 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>

August Greeters

6 – Bernie Pedersen

13 – Bob Hinrichs Family

20 – Mike & Mikayla Solie

27 – Rev. Ron & Kathy Mueller



July/August Leaders

Marilynn Amundsen	715-637-8777
Don & Mona Duncan	715-637-5915
Nathan & Brianne Duncan	715-642-1638
Trevor & Sarah Duncan	715-296-7279
Gail & Roxie Espeseth	715-637-3949
Bud & Carol Bremer	715-925-2043
John Ladwig	608-640-8463
Richard & Marlene Snyder	715-637-9292
Dwayne and Dennis Stabenow	715-837-1857
Mary Ann Wheeler	715-205-1158
Linda Mullikin	715-637-5888

August Altar Guild: Nancy Koenig, Marcia Elliott

August Elders

6 – Tim Dennis
13 – Trevor Duncan
20 – Stan Koenig
27 – Don Duncan

August Ushers

James Thalacker
Rev. Ron Mueller
Bob Hinrichs
Ian Hinrichs

Coffee Schedule

6 – Bob & Laurie Hinrichs
13 – Marcia Elliott
20 – MaryAnn Thompson
27 – Stan & Nancy Koenig



August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:30 am Bible Class 8:30 am Men's Club	2 6:30 pm BOE Meeting	3 11 am Bible Class	4	5
6 Green 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	7 7:00 pm Elders	8 7:30 am Bible Class 7:00 pm Council	9	10 11 am Bible Class	11	12
13 Green 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	14	15 7:30 am Bible Class	16	17 11 am Bible Class	18	19
20 Green 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<div>Pastor on Vacation August 21-28. Contact an Elder and they will put you in contact with a Pastor in case of emergency.</div>					
			4:30 PM Congregational gathering at Music in the Park 5:30 PM Music in the Park with Music at 6 PM			
27 Green 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	28	29 7:30 am Bible Class	30	31 11 am Bible Class		