

# Salem

## Salem Lutheran Church Childcare and Preschool



June 2022

# Pastor's Page

Dear Saints of Salem,

Last month I shared with you “vocation.” This week I want to bring the very gift of Baptism as it relates to the parenting vocation and raising children in the faith. I have shown in the past months that God calls parents to teach the faith to their children, but he calls parents to bring their children to the font where God gives them the great gift of faith. This is where the Child becomes a new creation. It’s a life-changing moment! It’s such a life-changing moment, that it should be celebrated each year.

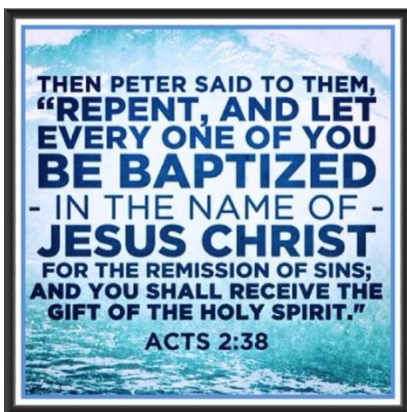
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod provides documents to the Church to assist in the building up of the faith, in one of these documents on Baptism, you read:

Just as our birthdays are times of celebration marking the entrance of our life into this world, so Baptism marks our entrance into a new life, an eternal life in God’s promised new creation. To commemorate this event, Christian parents are often encouraged to celebrate the baptismal birthday of their children in addition to their natural birthday.<sup>1</sup>



This statement assumes that one of the earliest tasks parents have in raising their children in the Christian faith is to bring them to the waters of Baptism, when they are welcomed into the family of God. This gift actually addresses vital needs that each individual has, namely the need for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

One must remember that Baptism is not a human act. It is not the act of the father, mother, child, or even the pastor. It is an act of God. To be clear “to be baptized in God’s name is to be baptized not by men, but by God Himself. Therefore, although it is performed by human hands, it is still truly God’s Work.”<sup>2</sup> Baptism is all God’s work no matter the age of the individual. Baptism also includes infants. God even grants infants faith. He is the only that can grant faith to an individual for we confess in the meaning of the Third Article of the Creed: “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts and kept me in the true faith.”<sup>3</sup> Baptism is a work of God that grants faith. It is here in the water and with the Word of Baptism that a human child is brought into the family of faith and adopted into God’s family. It is also here where the Baptized Child of God becomes a priest, one that go before God on their own, one that can call God Father. You will hear more about the Priesthood of all Believers in the July Newsletter.



<sup>1</sup> Commission on Theology and Church Relations, *An Inexpressible Treasure: The Theology and Practice of Holy Baptism*, (St. Louis: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 2019), 10.

<sup>2</sup> LC IV:10 in McCain, 424.

<sup>3</sup> SC: Third Article in McCain 330.

Baptism is crucial in the upbringing of children in the faith. One must also remember that Baptism is yes, a gift, a gift that needs to be followed by the teaching of the Word of God.

As we continue to look at what it means to be raising children in the faith, later in this months newsletter, I will share a review on the Book: *Faith Begins @ Home*.

In His Faithful Service,

*Rev. Dr. Michael Nielsen*

## **Semi-Annual Meeting 4/24/2022**

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

**Congregation Members Present:** 25 (list is attached)

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

**Secretary Report:** Sarah read the semi annual meeting minutes from 12/05/2021. A motion was made by Stan Koenig to accept the minutes and seconded by Chris Severt and motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** MaryAnn advised the 2022 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financial summary as follows: General fund balance as of 03/31/2022: \$60777.94 Income: 13103.06 Expenses: \$17636.90 Net Income: -\$4553.84. Envelope giving for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter: \$25233.46 Envelope giving is down -\$6993.55 from last year. Current bank accounts: Salem Checking: \$21616.35 Salem Savings: \$17320.91 Daycare Checking: \$30559.60 LCEF: \$27013.51. We are at a negative total income of -\$5121.64. Preschool/daycare grant money was explained. A motion was made by Paul Millerman to accept the report and seconded by Chris Severt and motion carried.

**Elder's Report:** Paul Millerman advised Mike & Makayla are taking marital classes. We need a motion to release the membership of the Bekendorf family. A motion was made by Don Duncan and seconded by Stan Koenig and motion was carried. Bud Bremmer would like to go with Pastor to visit the shut-ins. Board training with DJ went well. Cumberland Lutheran relief is cancelled. A motion was made by Trevor Duncan to accept the report and seconded by Chris Severt and motion carried.

**Trustee's Report:** Tom Lipke advised that general maintenance is ongoing. Church clean up is going to be in May. Tom needs 6-7 people to help shampoo carpets once church cleaning is done. There will be a sign-up sheet. Pastor will be putting out a lawn mowing schedule. This saves the church roughly \$125 per week. The lawn mower was serviced. A motion was made by Duffy Anderson to accept the report and seconded by Paul Millerman and motion carried.

**Board of Education Report:** Chris Severt advised that Mandi put in her resignation as director and is going to go back to being a lead teacher. MaryAnn and Sue are taking responsibilities to fill in that position for now. An ad is going out soon for the director job. Board updated tuition terms. There will be a preschool open house

May 3-5 from 9-11am. 25 total children enrolled with 3 full time staff, 2 part time staff and many volunteers. Financials are in the red but we are working on trying to offset costs to get back into the black again. Board of Education voted on target goals. 1. Support all education 2. Create a mission statement 3. Uphold policies. The board also voted on targets for the childcare/preschool 1. Being good stewards 2. Intentional focus on recruiting 3. Christ centered. 20 children are attending Sunday school. May 15 will be the last day of SS with teacher appreciation and a pot luck. High school class is very well attended and has a phenomenal teacher. YFM is very busy with the following events: new church directory, teacher appreciation, parents forum, snow tubing, Easter egg hunt, women's retreat and getting ready for the church picnic. Kwik Trip cards are being mailed to military families and college students. VBS will be 'God's Wonderlab' kicking off on June 19 and going from the 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. A motion was made by Marcia Elliott to accept the report and seconded by Trevor Duncan and motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Nielsen talked of doctoral work and will be graduating in about 4 weeks. He advised that there will be a Lutheran school presentation before service on 5/22/22 and Q&A after service. The proposed school has already had donations and they are looking for \$50K in the first year. Was at Immanuel in Cedar Lake. District convention June 5-6. Pastor's conference May 2-3. Pastor came up with 3 targets from board training 1. Continue to keep our focus on the mission of Salem on every activity that we do. 2. Increase support for families in raising their children in the faith. 3. Continue to grow in ways of being a Christian community that is a welcoming towards the community without bending our Biblical beliefs. Started an adopt a chaplain program and we are praying for a Navy Chaplain at Camp LeJeune. Men's bible study: Jeremiah. Thursday bible study: Basics of biblical interpretation. Sunday bible study: Christians in a woke world. Catechism classes will be ending on May 11. Looking at a shoe fundraiser. BACA pastor will be moving to the chairperson. Pastor is going to join the Chamber of Commerce board. Discussion about UW Extension church partnership in trying to do more family centered activities in the community. IRS money came in today. A motion was made by Stan Koenig to accept the report and seconded by Paul Millerman and motion carried.

**Old Business:** John Steele talked about the steering committee for the new Lutheran school coming to the area. More details to come on May 22.

### **Needs List:**

**Catechisms \$13/book**  
**Study Bibles \$40/book**  
**Certificate Frames \$4/frame**

**Air Conditioning**

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

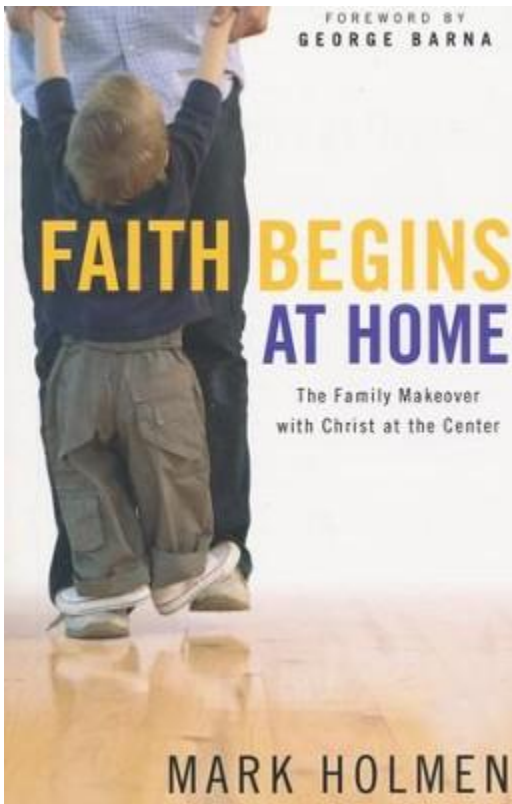
**Church Computers - \$600 per computer (replacing 1 every 2 years)**

**Faith Alive Bibles \$26/book**  
**Additional Hymnals \$27/book**  
**Baptism Frames \$4/frame**

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

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

**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.**



Mark Holmen, *Faith Begins at Home: The Family Makeover with Christ at the Center* (Bloomington, MN: Bethany, 2005).

Mark Holmen writes a simple book that is written for the home. On the summary on the book on the back cover he writes: “In the past, faith was a central part of the family’s home life, passed on from generation to generation. Today, the reality for many families is that faith is no more than one-hour, drop-off Christianity, if it is present at all.” How true is that. It is alarming.

His book addresses that Faith does begin at home. He points out something that many if not all of us know at the begin: “Many parents today are searching for help.” Where do parents go for help? Where do parents typically go to last for help and support? Typically nowadays the church is the last place we go to for help. Holmen even points out that “many families don’t recognize the local church as a resource to help them with their family relationships.” He also goes on to say that “Satan knows that the Christian Church is one of the most valuable resources families need

in order to succeed” and he will do everything he can to take your eyes off of the church and faith and God all together.

The central metaphor that Holmen uses throughout his book is that of a makeover. He introduces this metaphor by using the television show *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* as they look at the physical makeover of the family home. Holmen in his book argues that families need a deeper makeover...one that is spiritual in nature. This book is simple and critical it shows how families can develop tools to in raising their children in the faith. Throughout the book he even provides activities for families to do to aid in the makeover of the home.

Some of the topics that he dives into are: The Home Makeover, Parent Makeover, Child Makeover, Extended Family Makeover, and even The Church Makeover. I recommend this book for any parents who is looking for ways to change how their family operates when it comes to faith education in the home. It is practical and solid.

**June 1:** Hunter Nelson, Marcia Elliott & Jonah Nielsen

**June 2:** Amelia Weise

**June 5:** Rita Herman & Taylor McGowan

**June 6:** Roxann Espeseth

**June 7:** Sarah Forehand

**June 9:** Kelly Cornelius

**June 10:** Nathan Duncan

**June 11:** Ethan Kobernick

**June 12:** Tim Dennis & Marlene Snyder

**June 16:** Benjamin Wheeler

**June 18:** Kaitlyn (Church) Klimek

**June 21:** Wyatt Weise

**June 22:** Brian Miller

**June 25:** Melissa Weinert

**June 29:** Hannah Millerman





**June 12: Will & Kathy Schuettpelz**

**June 18: Mahlon & Barb Maas**

**June 20: Mark & Amy Dennis**

**June 25: Rick & Kelly Cornelius**

**June 27: Fred & Linda Riebe**

### **Baptism Birthday**

**June 2: Taylor Severt**

**June 19: Jonah Nielsen**

**June 23: Brayden Weinert**

**June 24: Owen Metz**

**June 26: Amelia Weise**



# 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) 769-3133

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 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>

## June Greeters

5 – Will & Kathy Schuettpelz

12 – Shirley Hehl

19 – Mark Dennis Family

26 – Marilyn Otto

**June Altar Guild: Nancy  
Koenig/Marcia Elliott**

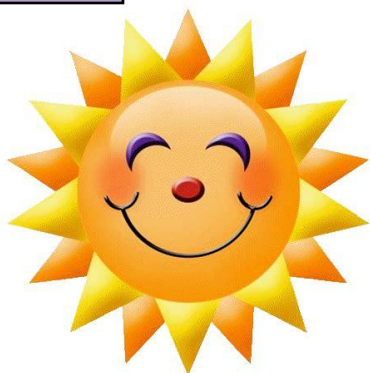
## June Elders

5 – Tim Dennis

12 – Josh Millerman

19 – Paul Millerman

26 – Don Duncan



## May/June Work Group

Carol Shearer	715-822-4375
Lucille Wood	715-637-6606
Steve 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	715-637-2258
Sue Weise	715-837-1555
Chris & Amber Queiser	715-641-1054
Tom & Debbie Lipke	715-458-4712
Rusty & Melissa Weise	715-764-2084
Scott Queiser	715-837-1371
Melissa Miller	715-641-0263
Earl & Aimee Starck	715-637-3482
Debbie Church	715-637-4744

## June Ushers

Will Schuettpelz

Mark Dennis

Damen Dennis

## Coffee Schedule

5 – Open

12 – Open

19 – Open

26 – Open

# June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 11 am Bible Class	3	4
5 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class 10:15 Church Clean up 12:00 Potluck  District Convention	6 7:00 pm Elders  In Wausau	7 7:30 am Bible Class	8	9 11 am Bible Class	10	11
12 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	13	14 7:30 am Bible Class 7:00pm Council	15	16 11 am Bible Class	17	18
19 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 VBS Brunch 10:30 - Noon VBS Activities  	20 VBS 5-5:30 pm Family Supper 5:30-7:30 pm Activities  	21 7:30 am Bible Class  VBS 5-5:30 pm Family Supper 5:30-7:30 pm Activities  	22 VBS 5-5:30 pm Family Supper 5:30-7:30 pm Activities  	23 11 am Bible Class  VBS 5-5:30 pm Family Supper 5:30-7:30 pm Activities  	24	25
26 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Bible Class	27	28 7:30 am Bible Class	29	30		