

SHARING OUR FAITH

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOOSTER, OHIO



Tim's Time—Lay Leader Thoughts

As we step into May, the season brings with it more than blooming flowers and warmer days—it invites us to reflect, to give thanks, and to lift our eyes in hope.

Mother's Day approaches, and we pause to honor those who have nurtured, guided, and loved us with grace that often goes unnoticed. Whether biological mothers, adoptive, step, grandmothers, godmothers, or those who mother in spirit—these women reveal something of God's own steadfast and tender love. "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you," says the Lord in Isaiah 66:13. In their compassion and perseverance, we catch a glimpse of the divine care that surrounds us all.

Later in the month, Memorial Day invites a different kind of remembrance. It calls us to honor those who laid down their lives for the freedoms we enjoy—an act of love and courage that echoes Jesus' own words: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). As a church, we pray for peace in a world still marked by conflict, and we remember those whose sacrifices speak to the values we hold dear: service, honor, and the sacredness of every life.

And yes, this month also includes a lighter note—Star Wars Day on May the Fourth. While it may seem silly to mention in the same breath as Mother's Day or Memorial Day, even a fictional universe can offer unexpected moments of spiritual truth. "The Force will be with you, always," reminds us that there is a presence greater than ourselves. As Christians, we know that presence by name—Jesus, who promises, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

So whether you find yourself remembering a loved one, thanking a mother, or just enjoying a sci-fi pun, take a moment this May to see the holy in the everyday. God moves through our memories, our gratitude, and even our laughter. And God is still at work—through us, in us, and among us.

May the peace of Christ—and His never-failing love—be with you always.

BIBLE STUDY: Each Sunday morning at 9:00 Pastor Nathan leads a bible study. Currently, studying the book of Psalms.

MAY
2025

BUILDING FAITH BY
PRAYING FOR GOD'S
GUIDANCE, HEARING
GOD'S WORD,
SHARING GOD'S
GRACE, SERVING
GOD'S CHILDREN

Check our website for updates at www.slcw.org. If you are in need of pastoral care, you may contact Tim Barrage at 330-465-5763.

Items for the June newsletter should be submitted by May 11.

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Prayer List: Lois Phillips, Debra Sears, Alyssa Snyder, Willy Zamora, Kathy Bond, Barbara Fedor, Kenny Wise, Sherri Snyder, Mike Fiser Jr., Regina Carson, Sheril Buchwalter, Shirley Delefave, Chet Molzen, Marvin Hartman, Tari Lowe, Patty Stuart, Bill Buchwalter, Mike Ringgenberg, Amanda Herbert, Monica Crawford, Sue Haumesser Miller, Jean Shoup and the families who have lost loved ones this year.

*If you are aware of any updates, please contact the office. Thanks!

Women of Faith will meet for brunch the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at Buehler's Towne Market in downtown Wooster. All women of Salem are welcome. Join our Facebook group called "Women of Salem." Please join us at: <http://www.facebook.com/WomenOfSalem>.

WORSHIP AT BROOKDALE

JOIN US ON MAY 11TH AT 2:00 PM AT
BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING CENTER FOR
OUR MONTHLY WORSHIP SERVICE

WORSHIP AT THE AVENUE

JOIN US ON MAY 25TH AT 2:00 PM AT THE
AVENUE OF WOOSTER FOR OUR MONTHLY
WORSHIP SERVICE.

In faith I
look to the
Heavens
and **REJOICE!**
For I know
my Redeemer lives!

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

06 Tori Ann Hartman	22 Kyle Hughes
09 Jeff Weiser	23 Nathan Hemmann
15 Scott Dunlap	27 Mike Raudebaugh
19 Chad Morrison	
21 Lillian McFarland	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:

Scott & Debbie Dunlap—May 1
James & Lora Rice—May 24
Matt & Sondra Woods—May 25
Jeff & Joan Weiser—May 29

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL—March 23, 2025 12:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Garald

Devotions: Led by Sharon, prayer read aloud. Opening prayer read together. Alan Nathan = devotions for April

Members: Alan Nathan (via zoom), Garald Wise, Sharon Salmons, Beth Zimmerman, Sherrill Wise (Tim Barrage, Tabitha Burchett) Absent: Tabitha, Sherrill.

Minutes: Minutes from February council meeting accepted as corrected moved: BethAnn, 2nd: Sharon, carried.

Treasurer's Report: reports for February not available. Tabitha provided information to correct secretary numbers for January – all balance.

Financial Secretaries Report: Income Reports presented.

Cards of Concern: Regina & David Carson, Terry & Kathy Bumgardner, Lila Woods, Shirley Wise, Judy & Jim Vitaro, Ed Blake, Debbie & Scott Dunlap.

Pastoral Report: Tim conducted all services in February=4, plus 2 nursing home ministry services. Hymn selections for April with the help (Amanda). 1 home visit. Pastor Nathan continues with Sunday morning Bible Study. Pastor will consecrate elements once per month for Avenue & Brookdale services. Tim will continue to hold office hours as previously listed. NEOS/NWOS Lay Leader program continues. Organists secured for all services through March.

Report of Council Chair: Volunteer for April devotional=Alan Nathan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Faith Formation: Women's Group still meeting The first Wed. of the month for Brunch, at Buehler's downtown. Monday night bible study will continue on Monday nights. Looking to start women's bible study.

Property: Roof was replaced 03/03/25. Fund raising events and pledge campaign to continue. Advertisements updated on Massillon Cable TV PSA channel for events: Bike Raffle. Final push for ticket sales to continue. Cemetery work completed, dimmer switch and light bulbs replaced in

FINANCIAL

Regular Offering	\$ 5,103.56
Designated Offering	\$ 735.00

YEAR-TO-DATE

Total Income	\$14,455.87
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Receipts through March 2025

MOTHER'S DAY—Sunday, May 11th

Mother's Day is not a federal holiday but it's a day to celebrate motherhood and show appreciation for mothers, including (great-)grandmothers, stepmothers, foster mothers and other mother figures. The history goes way back: the modern holiday was first celebrated in 1908. Anna Marie Jarvis was the founder of this holiday in the United States.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

MEMORIAL DAY—Monday, May 26th: Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who died while in the military service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. In other words, the purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. We spend time remembering those who lost their lives and could not come home, reflecting on their service and why we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today.

(council meeting minutes continued from page 3)

sanctuary, drape installed in sanctuary, tower repair to be investigated and estimate provided on Monday 03/24/25. A motion was made to approve funding of tower repair if below \$3750.00 threshold: BethAnn, 2nd :Sharon, carried.

Evangelism: Working with Fellowship to share events to the community.

Fellowship: Continuing to plan future events (to pair efforts with Evangelism): Soup meal March 16th, was a success. Progressive meal 03/30/25 noon-3pm, Easter Breakfast set for April 20th. May 15th Chili Cook-off, June

22, cook-out. Motion to hold meals and services as discussed: Sharon, 2nd BethAnn, carried.

Social Ministry: Monday Night Meal and Bible Study AT SALEM Meal at 6p.m. with Bible Study to follow. Items needed for Baker's Pantry listed as: Mac& Cheese, Cereal, Canned meats. Cereal, shelf stable milk, personal hygiene items, tooth brushes. Pantry is seeing a lot of use. Our next date for Zion Meal is April 27.

OLD BUSINESS: (1) roof repairs (see property) (2) Organists Tim Mann, and Sandra Smith still filling needs as needed. (3) Tim is still completing the duties for Secretary. (4) Nursing home ministry- going well (5) NFL Meal going well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jeepers Creepers planning: need to secure vendors and food trucks now. 10/25/25 12-4pm.

Adjournment: Motion: Sharon, 2nd: BethAnn, carried. (next council meeting 04/27/25 12:00 pm) We closed with The Lord's Prayer. Passing of Peace. 1:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Timothy J Barrage

BIBLE STUDY: Each Sunday morning at 9:00 Pastor Nathan leads a bible study. Currently, studying the book of Psalms. Join us in the Pastor's office or on Zoom.

Office Hours:

Monday and Friday

9:00 am—1:00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday

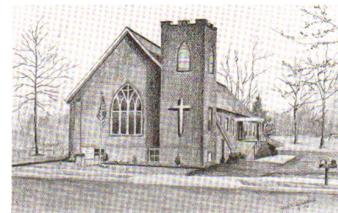
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

330-345-6727

slcmain@gmail.com

www.slcw.org

Hello May



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: Tune in to Facebook to view our Sunday morning services:
Facebook.com/SalemLutheranWooster