

# SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Malone, Texas 76660

*Established 1886*

## December 2004

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Grace, mercy and peace to you in Christ Jesus, God Incarnate!

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save his people from their sins.” (St. Matthew 1:21 NKJV)

These words of the angel to St. Joseph keep our eyes fixed on the reason for Christmas: “He will save His people from their sins.” The One whose birth we celebrate on the Feast of the Nativity is the One who is the Savior. Apart from Jesus, there would be no hope; we could not deliver ourselves from death and condemnation.

But God’s Word promised that a Savior would come. The Christ who is true God and true man was born in Bethlehem so that He would accomplish our redemption through His suffering and death and so that through His resurrection He gives to us the promise of our own resurrection. Believing in Him as our Savior, we have the forgiveness of our sins, and we are partakers of these good gifts of God.

Each year, we are reminded from various circles of the Church: “Jesus is the reason for the season.” How true! Reducing Christmas to gift-giving and various other ‘celebrations’—while neglecting the very heart of the feast—is sacrilegious, at best. But we also need to “keep the ‘Mass’ in Christmas”; we need to remember that Christmas is, above all else, a feast day of the Church, upon which day Christ’s people gather to receive their Savior in Word and Sacrament. With Christ and His divine service (or mass), we rightly observe the day, and rejoice in the salvation which is our through Jesus, who has saved His people from their sins. “Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!” (TLH 102)

*Yours in Christ,*

*Pastor Heiser*

## Advent Vespers Services Begins December 1<sup>st</sup>

Advent always begins on the Sunday nearest St. Andrew's Day (Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>), thus beginning this year on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Our midweek Vespers services will begin December 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.

December 1 <sup>st</sup>	St. Andrew, Apostle (transferred) "Come and See"—Christ's Invitation
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	The Christ Child—Promised Son of David
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Christ Child—Immanuel (Isa. 7)
December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St. Thomas, Apostle (transferred) "Seeing and Believing"

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**ADVENT PRE-SERVICE MEALS**—This year we are planning on having soup and stews and bread for the 6:30 meal before the Wednesday evening Advent services. Something easy and filling that you could put in the crockpot before you left for work, or bread from your bread machine, even biscuits or rolls from the store would work. This might be the time to try out that recipe you've been wanting to try, but that made too much, or that you weren't sure the family would like. Let us be your guinea pigs. —*Donna*

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### Please Help Beautify the Church for Christmas!

Beginning November 28<sup>th</sup>, there will be a sign-up sheet for poinsettias in the church office. The price this year will be only \$10 per plant. If possible, please pay when you place your order—this will make it easier for Pat Riddle when she picks them up. (If you are getting the poinsettias in memory of someone, please let us know in the sign-up sheet.) Our thanks to Pat for helping beautify the Church!

## 2004 Christmas Program—

So many people enjoyed last year's program that the Board of Education has decided to use the same program this year.

Our first practice for the program will be on **November 28<sup>th</sup>**—the First Sunday in Advent. Practice will begin at **2 p.m.**, and last until **3:30**. It is very important that all children who wish to participate in the program are at the first practice. (We will also have practices on the afternoons of December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.)

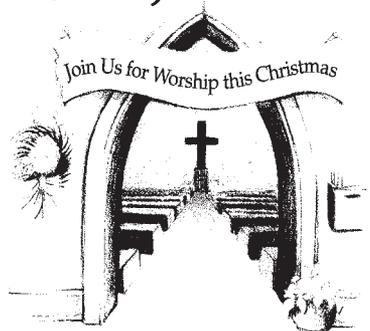


## Share the Joy of Christmas through Song!

We plan to make our caroling visits this Advent season on **December 19<sup>th</sup>**. We plan to leave at approximately **3:30**. Please come and join us—it truly is “the more the merrier”! We always have fun singing and visiting. Following caroling, we will gather at the church for a light meal, and Christmas ‘goodies.’

## Christmas = Christ + Mass (the Divine Service)

December 25<sup>th</sup> is a ‘Feast’ Day of the Church—the Feast of the Holy Nativity—one of the four chief days of the entire calendar. It is a day which draws its popular name from the worship service held on that day. The divine service (with holy communion) will be celebrated at **10 a.m.**—come celebrate Christmas!



## Salem Lutheran Women's Guild

Happy and safe holidays from all the members of the Salem Lutheran Women's Guild.

At our November meeting, the Guild members elected Donna Huse as our new president. She will assume her duties beginning on January 1st, 2005. Thanks, Donna, for accepting this new role for the Lord's work to be carried on. Dorothy Markwardt was reelected for another term as our secretary. Many thanks, Dorothy.



Women's Fellowship

Also at our meeting, we decided to have a Christmas collection of baby shower items, and stuffed animals, to be presented to the CPA (Child Protection Agency) in Hill County. Please help us to help the children. These are children and babies that have had to be taken from their parents or homes for one reason or another, and we would like to help make their holidays a little bit brighter. Bring any gift that you would give at a baby shower, such as blankets, socks, one-piece outfits, lotions, shampoos, comb/brush sets (this is just a suggested partial list). Also, there are some that might need a stuffed animal to hold on to for comfort. Please help these little ones. Just bring the items to church and we will put them under one of the Christmas trees until December 23rd, and then we will deliver them to the agency in Hillsboro.

We will sponsor our annual potluck (sandwiches, chips, and other party goodies) Christmas Party on December 17th, beginning at 6 P.M.. Bring wrapped, unmarked gifts for bingo prizes. (This party will also include the monthly birthday/anniversary party, so we will have double the fun, so make plans now to attend and be ready for a great time.)

A PERSONAL NOTE to the Women's Guild. I wish to

thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as your president for these past years. I have enjoyed it very much, and it has made my life richer by far. Not all riches involve money. Some of my riches are that I had the privilege of attending four conventions (one was in Waco to help celebrate 50 years of the Tx. District LWML). I otherwise would not have done any of the things I have gotten to do. I have met a whole lot of really nice women and pastors from all over the globe in my capacity as your president, and truly enjoyed it. My wish for Donna is that you will receive the many blessings that I have received. You are all great ladies to serve with. Thank you for allowing me to do so.

*Rachel Kunkel*

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**Salem Lutheran Men's Fellowship**—We will have our monthly breakfast and Bible study on **Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. As usual, our breakfast begins at **8 a.m.**, with Bible study following. All men of the congregation are strongly encouraged to attend!

*Pastor Heiser*

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**Board of Elders Meeting**—The Elders will have their regular monthly meeting on **December 7<sup>th</sup>** at **7:15 p.m.** All elders are requested to bring their Bible and Book of Concord.

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**Board of Education Meeting**—The Board of Education will have a brief meeting following Divine Service on **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

*—Denise*

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**Monthly Birthday and Anniversary Party**—This month the Party is being combined with the Christmas Party on **December 17<sup>th</sup>**.

**GOOD WORK!**—Kenny Kelm was Student of the Month for September at Bynum. Well done!

# Bethesda

Lutheran Homes and Services, Inc  
Gulf Region

Good Samaritan Campus, 18937 K.Z. Road, P.O. Box 729, Cypress, TX 77410-0729  
281-351-4911 Fax: 281-351-5897

October 13, 2004

Salem Lutheran Church  
Ladies Aid  
c/ o Tony Zettler  
1536 HCR 3424E  
Bynum TX 76631-3023

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your donation of soup labels to Bethesda Good Samaritan Campus. As you may know, these labels benefit the individuals whom we serve in two ways; first by providing therapeutic work, and secondly by providing much needed educational, recreational and leisure items they might otherwise not enjoy.

In the past we have sent away more than 70,000 labels to Campbell's for redemption, and received a 25" TV, CD music system with AM/FM stereo receiver, VCR, Igloo beverage cooler, teaching telephone, large playground balls, puzzle blocks and other learning resources. The day program and group homes look forward to this time each year as an opportunity to add materials or "fun stuff" they might otherwise have to do without.

As you can see, your label donations mean a great deal to us, and we are so grateful to our loyal label savers for making this possible. We at the Good Samaritan Campus certainly hope we can continue to count on your support in saving labels for the exchange program. Enclosed you will find the current list of products that you should save.

Sincerely,



Peter Henning

Regional Administrator

# BETHESDA LUTHERAN HOMES & SERVICES, INC.

GOOD SAMARITAN CAMPUS, P.O. BOX 729, CYPRESS, TX 77410-0729

Save Those Campbell Soup Labels

*Thanks to you, last year we collected over 70,000 labels*

*We purchased a 25" TV, CD Music System with AM/FM Stereo Receiver, VCR,*

*Beverage Cooler, Teaching Telephone, Large Playground Balls,*

*Puzzle Blocks and other learning resources*

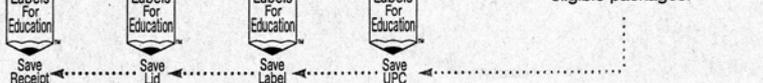
## Here's What You Should Save...

Eligible Products Include ONLY the Brands and Package Forms Listed Below

Product	Package	What To Save
Campbell's Beans Products	can	front label panel
Campbell's Chunky Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Condensed Soups	can	front label panel
<b>BONUS BRAND</b> Campbell's Condensed 26 oz. Soups (Family Size)	can	front label panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Low Sodium Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Ready To Serve Soups	bottle	lid
Campbell's Select Soups	can	front label panel
Campbell's Simply Home	glass jar	front label panel
Campbell's Soup To Go	tub	label
Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mix	box	bottom panel w/UPC code
Campbell's Tomato Juices (10 oz., 46 oz.)	bottle-plastic/glass	front label panel
Campbell's Tomato Juices (46 oz.)	can	front label panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices (46 oz.)	can	front label panel
Campbell's Healthy Request Tomato Juices (46 oz.)	bottle-plastic	front label panel
Franco-American Gravies	can	front label panel
Franco-American Gravies	jar	front label panel
Franco-American SpaghettiOs & Pasta	can	front label panel
Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls & Stuffing	bag/carton	UPC symbol
Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish & Snack Mixes	bag/carton	UPC symbol
Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings & Puff Pastry	bag/carton	UPC symbol
Pepperidge Farm Soups	can	front label panel
Prego Pasta Sauces	jar/bottle	front label panel
Prego Pasta Sauces (46 oz.)	bottle-plastic	lid
Swanson Broths	can	front label panel
Swanson Broths	carton	UPC symbol
Swanson Poultry	can (paper label)	front label panel
V8 Vegetable Juice (46 oz.)	can	front label panel
V8 Vegetable Juice (10 oz., 46 oz., 64 oz.)	bottle-plastic/glass	front label panel
V8 Healthy Request Vegetable Juice (46 oz.)	can	front label panel
V8 Healthy Request Vegetable Juice (46 oz.)	bottle-plastic/glass	front label panel
V8 Splash (16 oz., 46 oz., 64 oz., 96 oz.)	bottle-plastic/glass	front label panel
<b>Attention School Food Service Director - Campbell's Food Service Products:</b>		
Campbell's Food Service Soups (50 oz.)	can	front label panel
Campbell's Chef Kettle Soups (50 oz.)	can	front label panel
Swanson Food Service Broths (49.5 oz.)	can	front label panel
V8, V8 Splash, Campbell's Tomato Juice (11.5 oz./24 cans/case)	can	2 code numbers from outer case
V8, V8 Splash, Campbell's Tomato Juice (5.5 oz./48 cans/case)	can	2 code numbers from outer case
V8, Campbell's Tomato Juice (46 oz./12 cans/case)	can	front label panel
V8 Splash (16 oz./12 bottles/case)	glass	2 code numbers from outer case
Market Day (selected products)	tub/carton	front label panel



Look for these reminder symbols on eligible packages.



## 2005 Officers

<b>President:</b>	Larry Markwardt
<b>Elders:</b>	Gary Kelm, Carl Payne, <i>Weldon Reinke, Don Schnell</i>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Kay Watson
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Donna Huse
<b>Financial Sec.:</b>	Patsy Williams
<b>Trustees:</b>	<i>Ronald Banik, Lee Boortz, Alvin Ender, Sean Fant, Charles Huse, Morris Kruger</i>
<b>Cemetery Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	<i>Cliff Krumvieda</i>
<b>Education:</b>	Shannon Henkel, Terri Kelm, Pam Krumvieda, Alton Markwardt, Kay Watson
<b>Finance:</b>	<i>Dawn Flores, Edmond Flores, Kenny Kelm, Dana Krueger, Greg Markwardt, Dorothy Markwardt, Penny Payne, Eric Rachut, Linda Rachut, Lana Schulz, Todd Schulz, Cheri Thomas, Patsy Williams</i>

(Names marked in *italics* are serving the second year of a two-year term in 2005.)

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## New Hymnals Purchased

At the October meeting, the voters approved a motion to acquire more copies of *The Lutheran Hymnal* while they are still available. Since the LC—MS has made the decision to publish *another* new hymnal, there have been concerns that TLH will no longer be published.

The voters decided to use all of the smaller (less than \$100) *undesignated* memorials to buy hymnals. Lodi Banik also asked that Walter's memorial be used for this purpose.

The following memorial hymnals have been published: **Walter Banik** (8), **Walter Banik/Emil & Ida Huff** (7), **Ella Degner** (1), **Billy Geltmeier** (1), **Ella Lehmann** (1) **Fern Lentz** (1), **Martha Monthei** (2), **Lillie Neumann** (3), **Helen Radke** (1) **Wylie Radke** (1), **Fred Strauch** (1), **Rocky Waller** (1), **Alvin Walters** (1), **Ella Webb** (1), for a total of 30 new hymnals.

In addition, three large print hymnals were purchased, and may be picked up at the back of the church for use. (Please feel free to use them anywhere in the church, but please return them to the choir area.)

## 2005 Budget

Pastor's Salary/Housing Allowance	\$37,200.
Car Allowance	\$ 4,000.
Health & Retirement	\$15,000.
Mowing	\$ 1,200.
Sunday School	\$ 500.
Church Insurance	\$ 5,000.
Utilities	\$ 9,000.
Office Supplies/I.T.	\$ 2,500.
Copier	\$ 3,000.
Repairs/Upkeep	\$ 1,700.
Guest Preacher	\$ 400.
Conference/Convention	\$ 600.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$80,100.,</b>
	or \$1540.38 a week
	(a 5% increase)

	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	COMMUNED
October 31	52	\$1,114.00*	n.a.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>\$6,976.00</b>	<b>138</b>
November 7	52	\$1,172.75†	49
November 14	54	\$1,379.00	35
November 21	54	\$1,989.25°	n.a.
November 24	NOT AVAILABLE		
November 28	NOT AVAILABLE		
<b>TOTAL (to date)</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>\$4,541.00</b>	<b>84</b>

**Budget for 2004:** +\$1,255.06. A total of \$1,465.69 is needed each week for budgeted expenses.

\* In addition to \$1,114 in general offerings, \$682 was given toward Salem's internet outreach.

† In addition to \$1,172.75 in general offerings, \$50 was given toward Salem's internet outreach.

° In addition to \$1,989.25 in general offerings, \$30 was given toward the radio ministry.

**Salem Lutheran Church**

718 HCR 3424 E

Malone, TX 76660

(254) 533-2330

The Rev. James D. Heiser, Pastor

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Holy Communion—1st and 2nd Sundays

***On the Radio: KHBR (1560 AM) Sunday at 9:15 a.m.***

***On the Web: <http://www.salemchurch.net>***