

Salem Lutheran Church

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 9:00 a.m. Martha Circle 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Whiteman's Gospel (Youth) 7:00 p.m. Worship at Salem Lutheran Church	2	3 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	4
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:00 a.m. Traditions Worship 10:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast 	6 9:30 a.m. Education Team 10:30 a.m. Music Planning 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	7 8:00 a.m. Women's Renewal at Salem 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	8 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:00 p.m. Whiteman's Gospel (Youth) 6:30 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Council	9 1:00 p.m. Ruth Circle 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service	10 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Tennebrae Service	11
12 <i>Easter</i> 7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship 7:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Easter Festival Communion Worship 	13 9:30 a.m. Worship Team 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	14 8:00 a.m. Women's Renewal at Salem 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building 4:00 p.m. PMLT	15 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Gathering (grades 4-9) 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Choir	16 9:00 a.m. Caring Community 9:00 a.m. Chaplain's Meeting in Hackensack	17 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	18 <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Pastor's Vacation April 18-21 </div>
19 7:00 a.m. <i>All Congregational trip to the Twins Game</i> 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Communion Worship 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship	20 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	21 8:00 a.m. Women's Renewal at Salem 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	22 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Gathering (grades 4-9) 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Choir	23	24 9:00 a.m. (co-ed) Bone Building	25 7:00 p.m. Legacy Chorale
Pastor's Vacation April 18-21				Synod Assembly — April 24-26 at Cragun's, Brainerd		
26 9:00 a.m. Traditions Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship <i>6th Anniversary Celebration of Prayer Project Lifesaver</i> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px;"> Synod Assembly at Cragun's </div>	27 1:00 p.m. Busy Needles	28 8:00 a.m. Women's Renewal at Salem 9:00 a.m. Executive Committee	29 8:00 a.m. Men's Renewal 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Gathering (grades 4-9) 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Choir	30 1:00-3:00 p.m. Alcohol Server Training		

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE TASK FORCE progress report

Task Force members: Bob Alley, Hans Aagard, Jim Joiner, Doug Burgers, Carol Fox, Barbara Anderson, Kathy Joiner, and Bonnie Hockett

Salem Lutheran Church is a congregation of 511 full and associate members (12% from birth to age 19; 19% from age 20 to 44; 25% from age 45 to 64; 44% from age 65 and up). Our congregation is situated in a recreational area which swells considerably in the summer months. Salem's worship life is impacted by the increased seasonal population. One-third to one-half of its summer worshipers are nonmember vacationers and seasonal attenders. Salem currently offers two worship opportunities during the summer quarter: 1) a primarily traditional service using selections for hymns and liturgy from one of our service hymnals typically accompanied by organ or piano, and 2) a less formal contemporary service with music that is often repetitive in nature so that even if people do not already know the music it can be quickly learned and may be accompanied by guitar, piano, drums and other instruments. Ave. summer attendance is evenly divided between the two services.

Summary of viewpoints

Congregation embraces unity ↔ Congregation embraces variety

Reducing the number of services solves the problem of needing to recruit volunteers ↔ The more worship options, the more opportunity for more people to use their leadership gifts

Reducing the number of services saves expense ↔ Loss of people in overall attendance results in less in the plate (fewer contributions)

A full church exudes a feeling of life and energy ↔ A full church sends a message there's no extra room

A single service focuses on one group ↔ A single service may limit a congregation's ability to reach different groups

A single service option lessens the confusion regarding worship times ↔ People love options that fit their schedules

More people would experience communion together ↔ Distribution time could take considerably longer

Parking is adequate for 310 ↔ A full parking lot sends a message there's no extra room...those who don't arrive on time often must park at a distance

"When your main worship service reaches 80 percent of comfortable capacity (measured at 30 to 36 inches per person), you may be pretty certain that you are discouraging frequent attendance by current members and presenting a 'no vacancy' sign to newcomers." (*Raising the Roof*. The Alban Institute). This is called the "80 percent rule." Our congregation can comfortably seat up to 200 (@25"/person). Eighty percent = 160. Salem's 5-year average summer worship attendance is 253; winter average is 157. Salem's highest average summer worship attendance was 327 in 2001 with three services being offered; winter average was 235. Regarding parking the rule of thumb is to "provide a parking space for every two persons you want in the building." (*Congregations, Winter 2004*. The Alban Institute, Inc.). Salem has 155 parking spaces. Salem is actively programmed for outreach and growth. The "Summer Worship Schedule Task Force" welcomes additional viewpoints regarding Salem's worship schedule as it relates to the summer quarter when Salem's two service schedule is in effect. Please submit your comments in writing together with your name to any member of the task force.