

# SALEM SPIRIT



*Our Vision:*

*To be a congregation of disciples proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all.*

*Our Mission:*

*To Glorify God in all that we do, reflecting His love to our community and the world.*

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## THE MOM TEST

*I was out walking with my 4 year old daughter. She picked up something off the ground and started to put it in her mouth. I took the item away from her and I asked her not to do that.*

*'Why?' my daughter asked.*

*Because it's been on the ground, you don't know where it's been, its dirty, and probably has germs' I replied.*

*At this point, my daughter looked at me with total admiration and asked, 'Momma, how do you know all this stuff, you are so smart.'*

*I was thinking quickly. 'All moms know this stuff. It's on the Mom Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a Mom.'*

*We walked along in silence for 2 or 3 minutes, but she was evidently pondering this new information.*

*'OH...I get it!' she beamed, 'So if you don't pass the test you have to be the dad.'*

*"Exactly' I replied back with a big smile on my face.*

*Happy Mom's Day!!*



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**SALEM LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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**WORSHIP SERVICES**

*8:00 A.M.*

*9:15 A.M.*

*10:30 A.M.*

**BIBLE SCHOOL**

*9:15 A.M.*

**MAY, 2008**

**CHURCH STAFF**

*Pastor.....Wayne Schmidt*

*Asst. Pastor.....Jefferson Cox*

*Minister of Music.....*

*Secretary.....Linda Magnuson*

*Grounds Keeper.....Ron Vasak*

Dearly Beloved,

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."

As painful as it is, the grief process is a gift designed by God to bring about healing. When we experience loss, particularly through death, it is natural to become disoriented. From a psychological perspective, we may find ourselves confused, preoccupied, distracted, forgetful, acutely sensitive and/or emotionally numb. From a theological perspective, we may find that we are distrustful or questioning of God -- trying to discern who or what can be trusted, and/or whether if anything or anyone can be trusted at all.

Grieving is the process of re-orientation. When a loved one dies our world collapses in upon us. As grievers, we must clear away the debris of our collapsed world in order to find the foundation on which to rebuild our lives. Telling our "grief story" is the number one task which we are to do and must do if we are to live functional, healthy lives. As we tell our grief story, we are seeking to make meaning out of our experience. As we tell and retell our grief story, the facts and the metaphors change, sometimes slightly, some times dramatically. This is good and important. With each telling we become more in touch with reality. It is here where God would have us rebuild our lives.

What happens if we choose not to tell our grief story? The consequence is that we remain disoriented, Time heals nothing! Time allows the "wound" only to fester, which affects directly and indirectly, consciously and unconsciously all other significant relationships. Although telling your grief story may draw out emotions you may not feel comfortable in expressing, it is necessary for healing and health.

Come into healing and health. Participate in one of the following offerings. Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm "Grief and Support Group I" will gather in my study. This group is open to all, but has evolved to have a special ministry to widows. Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> "Grief and Support Group II" will meet at 7:30 pm in my study. This offering is designed especially for men.

Come to know the comfort Christ offers those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

*Pastor Schmidt*

## *DELVING into the New Testament...*

Why is the Bible so important?

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.”

II Timothy 3:16-17

Christianity is based upon Divine revelation. The Bible divinely inspired. It is a living document through which the Lord God speaks. It was the great Protestant reformer, Martin Luther, who developed what came to be called the Great Protestant Principle, “Sola scriptura.” It is by scripture alone that we discover and learn the ultimate will of God. It is the Bible that leads us to have a personal relationship with God’s Son, the Living Word. Thus, no other book can match this book in importance.

The New Testament we read today is remarkably accurate as compared to other original ancient manuscripts. The Bible is better preserved, by far, than accepted writings of Homer, Plato and Aristotle. The Bodmer Papyrus II contains most of the Gospel of John and dates from around 150-200 AD. The Chester Beatty Papyri contains major portions of the New Testament and dates back to about 200 AD. The Codex Vaticanus, the oldest complete New Testament manuscript dates from 325-350 AD. We have fragments of John’s Gospel that date from 110-130 AD, within 30 years of his death. When compared to other ancient works such as Plato, Homer or Tacitus, that short time period between the original and the most recent copy is dramatic!

As Christianity spread from across the ancient world, the Bible was carried from country to country. By 500 A.D. the Bible was translated into over 500 languages. Despite grammatical and cultural differences, God’s Word has been remarkably preserved and translated over the years.

The original New Testament manuscripts did not contain the chapter and verse divisions in the numbered form familiar to modern readers. Churchmen Archbishop Stephen Langton determined different schemas for systematic division of the Bible between 1227 and 1248 A.D.. It is the system of Langton on which the modern chapter divisions are based. The first person to divide New Testament chapters into verses was Italian Dominican biblical scholar Santi Pagnini (1470–1541). The first Bible in English to use both chapters and verses was the Geneva Bible published in 1560.

**MAY: MOTHER'S DAY TEA:** make your plans for Saturday, May 10th to celebrate Mother's Day with your Mother, daughter, granddaughter, aunt or best friend - enjoy an afternoon of fun & fancy fashion & fellowship; creative hat-wearing is highly encouraged! There will be a guest speaker on fashion; & musical entertainment. Mothers are welcome to bring their children; babysitting will be available during the tea. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall; if you are bringing children, please state their ages so we can prepare activities for them.

**JUNE: FATHER'S DAY GOLF OUTING:** We are planning a Men's golf outing to be held on Saturday, June 14th to celebrate that special man in your life, whether it be a father, son, grandfather, uncle or friend! We need to plan this event early so we have an approx. number to reserve tee times. If you'd rather, Pastor Jeff will host a simultaneous miniature golf outing. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall specifying which event.

**SUNDAY COFFEES:** We all have an opportunity each week to mingle with each other before or after any of the services. We are serving coffee & treats now every week in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone would like to host a coffee to celebrate a special event, please sign up on the bulletin board next to the kitchen.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** we need help with the special events, the weekly coffees & the weekly Wednesday night dinners: planning, set up & clean up. You do not have to commit to everything we are doing, or every single meeting we have; if we could just get help from individuals several times of year it will really make a difference! Thanks!

If anyone has any questions, suggestions, comments, or if you would like to be a part of any of the above planning fun fellowship events, please contact **Tammy Ayotte at 407-903-1455 or jimntam@hotmail.com**

***"There are no strangers here; just friends you haven't met...."***

