



FROM THE SALEM BROTHERHOOD RECORDS



- In January, 1948, Salem United Church of Christ obtained a new minister, The Reverend Guy Moyer. He came to us from California, but was originally from the Amish country near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He suggested a "Ground Hog Supper" on Ground Hog's Day. The first Ground Hog Supper was held on Ground Hog Day, February 2, 1949.
- The first year, the men butchered two hogs. It is not known how many people were served. The ticket prices were: Adults - \$1.00 and Children - \$.50. The first year, pictures were shown while the supper was being served. The income was \$718.35, expenses - \$133.91, leaving a profit of \$584.44.
- During the first years the hogs were all donated. Hogs were butchered and processed on Ed Abert's farm, northeast of the Church. Hogs were processed there until the mid 70's.
- In 1953, eighteen hogs were butchered, eleven of those were donated.
- In 1954, at a special meeting, there was a discussion about putting beef in the sausage. It was decided to keep it all pork sausage.
- In 1964, the big discussion on limiting the variety of pies to three kinds: pumpkin, cherry, and apple.
- In 1965, the 17th year for the Sausage Supper, the ticket prices were increased to: Adults - \$1.35 and Children - \$.75. It cost more to serve the meal because this was the first year for instant potatoes.
- In 1969, it was decided to add carry-out meals, and 37 carry-outs were served that first year.
- In 1977, the men began butchering the hogs at Korte-Richter in Highland, Illinois, and they processed them at Jack Frandsen's Farm.
- In 1983, the men began processing at Korte-Richter on the Thursday before the Sausage Supper.
- 1998 was the 50th year of serving Sausage Suppers. 2,346 people were served: 1,593 dine-in and 753 carry-outs, a record crowd. **1593 is still a record for dine - in meals.**
- 2005 we began cutting up the hogs on Wednesday at Korte Meats, finished processing on Thursday with meat sales beginning on Thursday. The remainder of the meat is sold on Saturday.
- 2006 In November Gehrig's Store, our supplier of groceries, paper products and propane closed. Jim's IGA in Livingston, became our supplier of groceries and paper products.
- 2009 was the year of Salem's largest meat purchase. 52 Hogs were purchased: 14,020 pounds of live weight. 8,050 pounds of sausage was made.
- 2015 saw a new record set in total meals **2347**.
- 2017 Jim's IGA in Livingston closes, Bill's IGA became our supplier of paper product and groceries.
- Replaced all Chairs in Parish Hall {over 350 chairs}
- 2018 was a record number of Carryouts 1084