

# Salem United Methodist Church Growing Together on the Journey with Christ

# A note from Pastor Paola

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

> Natalie Sleeth United Methodist Hymnal # 707

This is one of my favorite hymns. Perfect for this season. It captures the greatest promise of all times: in God we can see signs of new life blossoming out of any darkness and despair. Even in the midst of Good Friday we can have a glimpse of Sunday, Easter Sunday.

I just traveled back from Thomassique, one of the poorest towns in Haiti. My daughter Betta works there in a clinic supported by Medical Missionaries.

The first day I was there, I became completely overwhelmed and crushed by the living conditions: no running water, no electricity, not even latrines. The water from the wells in town is undrinkable. The land is dry during this season, so no fruits or vegetables are available. No roads. Shacks in place of homes. I thought I saw poverty in my life, but nothing could ever prepare me for what I saw in Thomassique. I felt the impulse to run away.

Then something happened. Instead of running away, I began visiting families with Betta and Wilner, a local Haitian

man who is the Assistant Director of the child malnutrition program that literally saves lives of children. I went to the crazy, crowded market. I cooked and ate with new friends who invited me to their humble homes. I helped at the clinic with a bunch of chores. Before I knew it, I was laughing, playing with children, trying (unsuccessfully) to communicate in Creole, hugging, and kissing people! Nobody could learn my name, but I Betta" became "Momma (my daughter's name) to everyone!!!

The day I left, a lot of tears were shed. These people have a faith in God that sustain them, give them hope, and make them laugh in the midst of unbearable life conditions.

Although I was in Thomassique only one week, my soul was renewed, my faith strengthened, and my eyes started seeing joy in the mist of despair.

Even in the midst of Good Friday, we can live our lives in the light of the Resurrection.

Blessings, Pastor Paola



# Inside this issue....

Lent Worship Series "We were there. We walked with Jesus."

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal March 29, 6:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Service March 30, 7:00 pm

**Easter Sunday** Celebration of the Resurrection: April 1

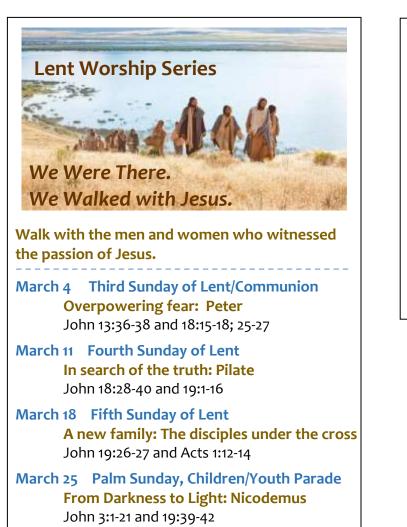
Easter Egg Hunt! Following worship on Easter Sunday

Food Pantry Sunday March 11

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**Spring Ahead!** Daylight Savings Time begins Mar. 11





#### Maundy Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:00 PM

The Passover Seder (which means "order," because of the fixed order of service), is a celebration observed in

Jewish homes with relatives and friends. It is led by an elder member of the family, but all who attend are active participants. The celebration tells the story of Israel's exodus from Egypt three hundred years ago. It includes special activities to hold the interest of children. This is the last meal Jesus celebrated with his disciples in the Upper room on Thursday night, the day before he was killed.

We will celebrate the Seder meal in our fellowship hall. People will gather around tables and will follow the service that includes readings, songs, and eating of the elements of the Seder meal. At the end of the Seder meal we will share a soup dinner, and we will close with the celebration of Communion. Our friends from First UMC in Waukesha have been invited to join us.

# Good Friday March 30

**7:00 pm Tenebrae** The word "tenebrae"



comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Good Friday service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial. This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus' death and of hopelessness in the world without God. The service concludes in darkness and silence, with a final candle, the Christ candle, carried out of the sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus.

#### Lenten Bible Study on Sundays after worship: "Final Words from the Cross"

We are exploring the words that Jesus said during the last six hours that he hung dying on the cross, as as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross. We're looking at what these words mean for our lives today. Just drop in as you can! Class ends on Sunday, March 25.



Sunday, March 11th 9:15 AM Jesus Cleanses the Temple

**Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 9:15 AM** Children: The Crucifixion of Jesus Teens: Caring for God's Creation, Part 2

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 9:15 AM The Resurrection of Christ

#### Upcoming Worship Series at Salem:

#### I Am Glad You Are Here

Christ welcomes us as we are and he challenges to open our doors, our hearts and our minds and experience the blessing of hospitality.

April 8	Hospitality 101	Luke 14:1-14
April 15	<b>Unexpected</b> Guests	Luke 14:15-24

#### **Creation: Gift & Responsibility**

As Christians, our concern for the earth is not blocked by our faith; it is actually triggered by our faith. Care for the earth is a way to give glory to God, Our Creator

#### April 22 Earth Day

In the Beginning God Created Genesis 1:1-25

#### April 29

Be Fruitful and Increase in Number; Fill the Earth and Take Charge Genesis 1:26-31

May 6Lay Speaker, Kermit BohningFarming the Garden of EdenGenesis 2:8-17



#### Undie Sundays End March 4th

Sunday, March 4, is your last chance to drop off underwear, warm socks, underpants, t-shirts etc. These items are needed for men, women and children. At local clothing outreach centers, these items are very limited. Sometimes there is NO underwear available at all! Place your items in the big wash tub in the narthex underneath the Outreach bulletin board. If you prefer that we do the shopping for you, please place a monetary donation or a check in an envelope marked "Undie Sunday" and place in the offering plate. (Checks can be made to Salem UMC.) Thank you so much!





Welcome to our newest members! Top: Rei & Edna Lesada, Doug & Chris Taylor Bottom: Ken Bringa, Greg Trombley (with son Cash), and Bob Lacock

#### Get-to Know Doug and Chris Taylor

Doug & Chris have lived in Waukesha since 2001, when Doug had a job transfer from southwestern Illinois. They were at First UMC in Waukesha before coming to Salem.

Doug is Traffic Manager for a chemical manufacturer. Chris spent many years as a college professor. She recently transitioned to working from home, doing online marriage ministry, and building a coaching and editing business for Christian writers. Doug and Chris enjoy spending time with their three adult children and going camping. We welcome Doug & Chris to Salem!

The newest prayer afghan made by Salem's Knitting Ministry



If you are interested in joining this

ministry, please see Becky Henderson. Currently they meet on Thursday mornings at Salem at 10:00 AM. They knit prayer shawls and afghans for members of our congregation in time of illness or who need comfort, they knit mittens and hats for those in our community who need warmth in the winter months, and they do some personal knitting projects of their own too! <sup>(1)</sup>



#### The Battle is over!

Congratulations to the winner of the Lasagna Battle – Rich Manns! He received a trophy and chef's hat for the Best Lasagna - 2018! We thank Rich, Bill Pardoe, and Pastor Paola for taking the time and effort to make three unique and very delicious lasagnas. Thank you, Salem for so generously giving to the Haiti project. We raised 4 times as much money as we hoped for! The grand total of \$1800 was taken to Medical Missionaries personally by Paola and Betta. Thank you, Salem, for your support!



#### A BIG THANK-YOU

Our Sweetheart Dinner on Feb. 9 was a great time to relax and enjoy good food, music and conversation. On behalf of the Nurture Committee, I am so grateful to all those who provided fabulous desserts, beautiful love songs and both piano and guitar accompaniment, table decorations and both set-up and clean-up. Once again, Sunset Family Restaurant was generous with their delicious dinner and on-time delivery. And thank you, God, for giving us decent driving weather!

- Bonnie Stuempfig



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It's easy! Here are the simple steps:

 Go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.
On your first visit, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.
Type in "Salem United Methodist Church Waukesha". When prompted, confirm your selection.

AmazonSmile will remember your choice, and then every eligible purchase you make at **smile.amazon.com** will result in a donation. Thanks for supporting Salem by selecting Salem as your charity choice on AmazonSmile!

Here are some common questions:

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations? Tens of millions of products are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

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## Palm Sunday Pie Day! March 25th

On Palm Sunday, we will be accepting donations to send to our missionary,

Paul Webster, in Mujila Falls Zambia, Africa. Please give generously, then select a piece of pie to enjoy after the service or to take home with you. We have not designated a specific project to help support yet, as there are so many needs. Be assured Paul will use our donations wisely! Check the bulletin board next to the office to see some of the things Paul does at the farm, or do a search for Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre on Facebook.

You will be amazed to see what he has accomplished in such a poor country and with limited resources! He promotes programs in education, health, agriculture, community development, evangelism and church construction. Interns from high schools often come to learn at the Ag Centre as well as Peace Corps volunteers who come to be trained. What a blessing he is to all those who have contact with him!

# Women in the Middle

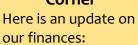
#### Wednesday evenings in April

Come together for a study targeted to women in their mid-lives. It's a challenging time for many of us. We'll consider issues that pertain to this time in our lives... physical, emotional, spiritual. We'll begin at 6:00 pm with soup for supper. We'll keep you posted as we finalize plans, but mark your calendars now!





#### Treasurer's Corner





January expenses were \$1284 more than income. February expenses are projected to be almost \$20,000 with income for the first three weeks at only \$12,000. Please help us by staying current on your contributions.

THANK YOU!

To my Salem family, I would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support during Mike's battle with cancer.



Sincerely, Peggy Barnes

#### 2018 Graduates?

If you or someone you know from Salem is graduating from high school, college, or postgraduate school, please let the office know. We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, June 3, during worship. Please contact Amy in the office at: <u>office@SalemOnTheHill.org</u> or 262-547-5231.



	1 <sup></sup>	-
		March
	March 2	Matt Henderson
	8	Ashley Newton
	9	Mary Watt
	14	Libbi Chapin
	16	Lois Hanson
	17	Aaron Broege
	18	Ben Manns
	20	Perla Agpoon
	20	Jo Bentley
	29	Rita Harasha
	30	Sandy Pardoe
Ň,	31	Doug Taylor
	N	

## MARCH LECTIONARY

- March 4 Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22
- March 11 Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21
- March 18 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33
- March 25 (Palm Sunday) Mark 11:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
- March 29 (Maundy Thursday) Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10)11-14 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 30 (Good Friday) Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1 – 19:42 We could use some for fellowship time!!

# Serving Salem in March

#### Sunday, March 4

Greeters: Paul & Bonnie Wojcik Acolyte: Seth Hernandez PowerPoint: Gary Wollenzien Worship Leader: Michelle Lacock Liturgist: Bob Lacock Children's Time: Pastor Paola Flowers: Bob & Michelle Lacock Refreshments: Bob & Michelle Lacock

#### Sunday, March 11

Greeters: Ralph & Sue Yont Acolyte: Cole Nease PowerPoint: Harriet Young Worship Leader: Bonnie Stuempfig Liturgist: John Klopp Children's Time: Bill Pardoe Flowers: Brian & Eileen Fischer Refreshments:

#### Sunday, March 18

Greeters: Brian & Eileen Fischer Acolyte: Aaron Buxengard PowerPoint: Paul Becher Worship Leader: Kim Newton Liturgist: Sydney Hernandez Children's Time: Pastor Paola Flowers: Rich & Amy Manns Refreshments: Rich & Amy Manns

#### Sunday, March 25

Greeters: Brian & Debbie Campbell Acolyte: Zachary Buxengard PowerPoint: John Klopp Worship Leader: Kermit Bohning Liturgist: Harriet Young Children's Time: Bill Pardoe Flowers: Refreshments: "Pie for Paul"

