



July - August 2018

Salem United Methodist Church Growing Together on the Journey with Christ

A note from Pastor Paola

Do you remember the bible story of the four men who have a friend who can't walk? Jesus is coming to town. They hear Jesus might heal their friend, so they carry him on a mat to the house where Jesus is. When they get there, they can't enter in the house because it is full of people. Nevertheless, they don't give up; they take their friend on mat up onto the roof, open the roof, and let their friend down. Jesus is deeply moved by the love of these men for their friend, and he heals the man. (Mark 2:1-5)

Do you have friends like that, friends who carried you through tough time? Do you have friends who would go out of their way to bring you to Jesus? I hope so.

This is the kind of friend we are called to be to others. You may have people in your life right now who are going through a difficult time: lonely, in crisis, struggling and confused. You may be just the one who could carry him/her through a difficult time. You can be the one who can bring him/her to Jesus.

I realize it is not easy. Many of us are uncomfortable to invite a friend to church. We may feel like faith is a private matter. Some of us are afraid to impose on others, or worse, we fear rejection. We may feel like we would be completely out of our comfort zone or unprepared to answer questions about God.

Nevertheless, consider this: if the four men in the story had not carried their friend to Jesus, he wouldn't have been given the opportunity of Jesus' healing.



*Hurricane Harvey Flood Rescue
Photo: Louis DeLuca/Dallas News*

Going out of our comfort zone and sharing our faith can actually transform someone else's life and bring great blessings.

Can you be this type of friend? All we need to do is to invite, and share our story of faith, without imposition and judgmental spirit. God will do the rest of the work.

This summer we have some great opportunities at Salem for inviting friends and families.

In July and August, we have two worship series that can engage people with different backgrounds and ages (see the next page).

On Sunday August 12, we have a family Vacation Bible School featuring the story of Noah. We'll have an actual ark, fun games, crafts, and music for all ages. What a wonderful time to invite a friend to come to Salem with you!!

Be a great friend, be a blessing, be life-giving this summer.

Blessings
Pastor Paola

Inside this issue...

Next 3 Worship Series at Salem:

- **July:** Summer at the Movies
- **August:** What's Buzzing?
- **September:** The Pharaoh, the Hebrew Slaves, and a Reluctant Leader

Summer Gatherings

Two more opportunities remain!

Family Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 12
11:00 – 2:00

New Prayer Walk at Salem

Our nature paths provide a place for prayer and reflection

Salem Prayer Chain becomes "Prayer Team"

Join us!

Worship Series/Themes at Salem:



Sunday, July 1, 9:00 AM
"Celebrate Freedom"

A family friendly service around tables

Join us for a special informal service to celebrate July 4th. The worship will be for all CHILDREN OF GOD, from 1 to 100 years old! Make sure to invite family and friends. We will worship around the tables in the narthex. We will have a craft, enjoy some snacks, do some singing, and listen to a brief pastoral message in celebration of our Nation's Independence. Come celebrate freedom!



Join us on July 8th as we kick off a new worship series! We'll be viewing movie clips and hearing the stories of great heroes of the old Testament who were called to carry on God's plan.

Sunday July 8 - Communion

Oh God! (1977) God chooses us to become His messengers - Exodus 3

Sunday July 15

Angels in the Outfield (1994) God sends angels to call us to take on new challenges - Isaiah 6:1-8

Sunday July 22

Bruce Almighty (2003) God transforms our heart so we can become agents of His grace (Jonah 1 and 4)

Sunday July 29

Evan Almighty (2007) God stretches our faith so we carry on His plan for salvation - Genesis 6

August

What's Buzzing?
Spiritual Lessons from
Honey Bees



It is August, and honey bees are buzzing everywhere! Let's hear from a local beekeeper about the amazing life of the honey bees and learn through the scriptures the profound lessons that the bees can teach us about God, ourselves, and our communities.

August 5 Communion

The Beekeeper and His Bees 1 John 3:1; 4:9-11

August 12

Being an Active Participant in the Difficult
Balance of Creation Romans 8:22-30

August 19

The Beehive: Working Together Produces
Amazing Golden Honey 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

August 26

Humble Bee: Dealing with Changes, Conflicts,
and Envy Galatians 5:16-26

September

EGYPT: The Pharaoh, the Hebrew Slaves,
and a Reluctant Leader

Inspired by her recent trip to Egypt, Pastor Paola will take us to the land of the powerful pharaohs where a group of powerless slaves led by a hesitant man finds freedom and changes the course of history.

September 2 - Communion

A Fearful Pharaoh and Four Courageous Women
Exodus 1

September 9

A Child and the Nile River - Exodus 2

September 16

Powerful Signs & a Reluctant Leader - Exodus 3-4

September 23

Face to Face with Pharaoh - Exodus 7:1-13

September 30

Threat, Fear, and Liberation - Exodus 14

Wisconsin Annual Conference 2018 Report from our Lay Representative, Bill Pardoe

I would like to thank the Salem congregation who entrusted me to represent them at Annual Church Conference in behalf of Salem. It was a great learning experience for me. We passed many action items that I will talk about at a later date. But for now, I'd like to share some thoughts from the opening message from Bishop Mornanish from Bolivia. His message was a very uplifting with a call to action. Almost a week has passed, and I am still thinking about it.

The Bishop spoke of the depersonalization that is in society today. He stated that every day we don't care about each other; we talk with our heads down, and look elsewhere because it's hard for us to look face to face. By doing this we are promoting non-encounters. These non-encounters occur in our churches, families, communities, cultures and in our nations. Jesus calls for us to have true encounters with our Lord and one another.

I could not help thinking about teaching our youth this year. The first thing we talked about was that we have choices. When we see someone in need we can close our eyes and pretend we don't see. We can walk in the other direction, or we can walk forward and offer all the help we can.

Look at the news on any media you choose. We see people suffering, and many of us don't offer real help, just blame. I think, "what would Jesus say or do?" Would he really care who is at fault it, or would he jump in and help?

Drum Set

As you probably have noticed, we have a wonderful drum set in church. Unfortunately, we have no use for it at this time. The trustees are concerned that the drum set is a fire hazard, obstructs passage and creates clutter.

Is anyone interested in playing the drums for worship occasionally? Or would anyone like to make an offer to purchase the drum set? Please let Pastor Paola know.



Food Pantry Sunday

Our summer Food Pantry Sundays are July 8th and August 12th. Thank you for supporting this vital community outreach program!



Prayer Team Update

When the Salem Prayer Chain began many years ago, the prayer requests were communicated through a series of phone calls. Since almost all of the prayer requests now are passed along through emails, we are simplifying and streamlining the process. Each prayer request should begin with either Pastor Paola or the church office (Amy). From there, it will be sent as one email to the entire Prayer Team. The Team is made up of 18 people. Please contact Pastor Paola if you'd like to join the team!

If you have a prayer request, please decide if you would like it to be shared with:

- 1) The Salem Prayer Team OR
- 2) The Salem congregation in an all-church email.

Let us know which one you prefer and we'll promptly pass along your request. Praying for each other during difficult times is very important in a church family. It increases our care and love for one another and also has a huge impact on our own walk with God. If you would like to join the Salem Prayer Team, please speak with Pastor Paola or with Amy Manns.

Salem Property Update

The city council authorized the city attorney to challenge the board of review's decision on the reduction of our property assessment, to the circuit court. Our position remains that this citizen board dutifully performed its duties in their unanimous decision.

We are in the midst of the due diligence period for the potential land sale.

You Are Invited!

Our Nurture Team is hosting a couples bridal shower for Ashley Newton and her fiancé, Andy Kuhn. Everyone is invited! The shower will be on Saturday, July 7th at 2:00 pm at Salem in the fellowship hall. Ashley and Andy are registered at Target and also Bed, Bath, & Beyond. Please RSVP to Maggie Bringa or Sandy Pardoe.



**Notice of Open Position:
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
June 21, 2018**

Salem United Methodist Church is seeking candidates for the position of director of music. Responsibilities include:

A. Choir Director (80%)

1. Organize Choirs of volunteers from Salem United Methodist Church to sing in worship services.
2. Plan and choose music related to the worship themes in coordination with the Pastor and worship team.
3. Scheduling and conducting rehearsals.
4. Reaching out to potential new choir members
5. Communicate with choir about schedule, choir events, changes etc.

B. Children's Music (10%)

1. Work with Education to develop and nurture youth and children's music programs such as Sunday School.
2. Help direct and coordinate special children's worship performances and programs.

C. Music Coordinator (10%)

1. Coordinate performances of other groups and special music.
2. Serve as a member of the worship team.
3. Organize and maintain the Church's library of choral music.

A complete job description is available. For more information please contact Cory Buxengard: lbuxengard@wi.rr.com Phone: 262-442-1355

Welcome Reception for Rev. Forrest R. Wells, New District Superintendent

Rev. Forrest R. Wells has accepted the appointment of District Superintendent of the South East District. We are cordially invited to a Welcome Walk-in Reception for Rev. Wells on Sunday, July 15, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. There will be a brief program and prayer time at 3:30 p.m. This will be held at West Allis First United Methodist Church at 1574 South 76th Street in West Allis. Refreshments will be served at this informal reception to which you are free to come and go according to your schedule.

Facility Task Force

About 6 months ago, Salem church council created a facility task force with the goal of creating a prioritized list of needed changes for our building. The Facility Task Force Committee has

completed its work. After many months of gathering information and facts on Salem Church, we have identified the updates and changes that are important and necessary. It is hoped that these improvements can make Salem more safe, effective and efficient in meeting the needs of our members and our community now and in the future.

The Committee began by evaluating our building, bringing in outside experts (a builder, an architect, and a former city planner) to give us their ideas and visiting two other Methodist churches to see what they had done to meet the needs of their parishioners. We also took into consideration our Trustees' list of long term projects. After that we prioritized our findings which were then presented to the Church Council on June 19, 2018.

Church Council will make this list available to everyone interested and decide how to move forward in the implementation of the items listed.

Members of the Facility Task Force Committee are: Pastor Paola, Ken Bringa, Lori Buxengard, Vicki Nease, Kim Newton, Bill Pardoe, and Bonnie Wojcik.



**Facility
Task Force**



**Salem Summer Gatherings
Fun and fellowship!**

Join us this summer at one or more of our family gatherings! We will have a little

snack/desert and have the opportunity of get to know each other better. During each gathering we will also take some time to share important church updates from the land sale, the facility task force, and music ministry. Here are the remaining opportunities:

Wednesday, July 18 from 6 - 8PM at Paul & Bonnie Wojcik's (W358 S2528 Hunters Lake Rd. in Dousman, Close to Hwy 67 & 18)

Thursday, August 8 from 6 - 8 PM at Cory & Laurie Buxengard's (W184 S8961 Racine Ave. in Muskego)

Marketing TEAM

News from Salem's Marketing Team

Have you taken a look at our Visitor's Center recently? We have a basket with small **gift bags** for our visitors (and little trinkets for children under the counter). If you see a visitor, please offer them a gift. It would be a great help to our greeters and would show our visitors how happy we are to have them with us.

Please wear your **name tags** on Sunday mornings. If you need a replacement, contact Amy in the church office.



Instagram

Salem is on **Instagram!** You can follow us at @salemonthehill. If you take a picture at church that you would like us to share on the account, send it to the church office and we'll make sure that it gets to Chris Taylor, who is our Instagram publisher.

FAMILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, August 12, 11:00 – 2:00



Mark your calendars for a 3-hour Family Vacation Bible School! Included will be lunch, music/songs, storytelling, fun crafts, and a short closing worship. For some activities, the teenagers will have their own group. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and family. It will so much fun!! Registration Forms will be available soon in the narthex.

*****We need animals to fill Noah's Ark!**

The VBS team is looking for new or gently used stuffed animals to help us decorate for VBS on August 12. As a mission project for VBS, we will be donating the stuffed animals after VBS. Thank You!



Walking the Path of Reflection and Prayer

Salem's walking paths provide an opportunity for experiencing nature and for prayer and reflection. The main path begins just north of the church and heads to the east and north. You will pass numerous trees and bushes which provide the opportunity to reflect on the trees and bushes of the Bible. Consider the Tree of Life, the Burning Bush, and the willows as you pass by representations of these. Stop on the east side at the overlook, take in the bird's eye view of nature and God's creation. Keep an eye out for our resident turkeys and the numerous wildflowers. As you reach the north circle, pause at the "Tree of Thorns" and reflect on the Thorns in the Bible and the thorns in your life. Turning back, with the church building in full view, imagine the biblical journeys through the desert, the wilderness, and to the Promised Land. Watch for the six garden spots where the youth have started a pumpkin project. These can be found by taking the central paths.



Sandhill Cranes on the Prayer Walk

Coming Soon: Prayer Labyrinth

Plans are underway for the creation of a prayer labyrinth near the walking path. A labyrinth is a walking meditation with three stages - the journey in; the center; and the journey out. In Christian usage, the purpose of the labyrinth is personal and spiritual transformation. One way to pray a labyrinth is to worship and praise God as you walk to the center, then intercede for people and concerns as you walk back to the outside. Watch for updates!

The Picnic Grove

A long-time tradition at Salem is the picnic grove. This is the area just north of the storage garage. It includes a campfire ring, plenty of shade for family picnics, and an open area for fun and games. It is also an excellent place to just sit and experience God. The large shade trees provide a quiet place to escape from life's challenges. Available for all to use. Check it out!

A Note of Thanks

For those of you who may have missed our thank-you in a previous Sunday bulletin, Bob and I extend our sincere gratitude to all of you who sent him get-well cards and prayed for him while he was near death just a few weeks ago. Miraculously, after eight days in the hospital wherein Bob was given constant loving care by a fabulous staff, he was able to return home with a new appreciation of all that life has to offer. We are deeply thankful for the visits from Pastor Paola and many family members. We appreciate the prayers from so many people; Bob has been included other churches' prayer chains all over the country, courtesy of our daughter, Vicki who got the word out through her Facebook friends. Salem's congregation helped tremendously in that effort and we thank you and wish you all God's blessings. - Bonnie Stuempfig



Come support the PURPLE TEAM on August 7

Last year, over 25 Salem family & friends came to support the "Purple Team" in the Senior Softball playoffs/picnic & music day at Rogers Field in Milwaukee. Kurt Guenther is the manager/leadoff hitter/LCF for the team. Former Salem Pastor Jorge Mayorga (catcher) is also on the team. The team has 7 games left as of June 24th, but, has already clinched a spot in playoffs as they are undefeated so far! Contact Kurt @ 262-521-3131 or Marlys Tesch (the teams' # 1 fan) as the team has one game on July 10 & doubleheaders on July 17 & July 24 !

The Playoffs are on Tuesday, August 7th! Games begin at 9 AM, Semi-finals at 10:30, & Championship to follow. Everything is FREE: playoff games, LOTS of food & music! Music is provided by Kurt's teammate, guitarist/singer - Steve Grimm (the lead singer of Bad Boy band that has played Summerfest 39 years in a row). Kurt Guenther will join Steve for a few songs, including the "National Anthem", "Take me out to the Ball Game" & "I FEEL GOOD" (by James Brown)!
*There will be a special section for the Salem group (similar to last year). Bring a lawn chair if you desire!

July Birthdays

- 1 Bob Teschner
- 1 Lenny Hernandez
- 1 Sue Dick
- 2 Kendra Fischer
- 7 Laurie Buxengard
- 9 Frank Kosednar
- 14 Robert Tomaszczak
- 15 Steve Broege
- 17 Tina Tonz
- 17 Ken Bringa
- 21 Brooke Nease
- 23 Dorothy Rohde
- 24 Kris Hanson
- 24 Colin Henderson
- 27 Kermit Bohning
- 27 Judy Schimpf
- 28 Amy Manns
- 31 Betta Hobbins
- 31 Alison Campbell
- 31 Alexis Tonz

August Birthdays

- 2 Dick Mueller
- 2 Sue Yont
- 5 Betty Padgett
- 5 Bob Cooley
- 6 Peggy Barnes
- 9 John Klopp
- 10 James Agpoon
- 12 Dick Harris
- 14 Gary Wollenzien
- 15 Bill Crusan
- 15 Grace Callen
- 18 Chase Hernandez
- 19 Donna Reichert
- 22 Roger Heilert
- 26 Becky Tomaszczak
- 27 Jim Mitchell
- 27 Penny Feller

Summer Fun!

Q: What do you get when you combine an elephant with a fish?

Swimming trunks!

Q: Do fish go on vacation?

No, because they're always in school!

Q: Why did the dolphin cross the beach?

To get to the other tide!

Q: Why don't oysters share their pearls?

Because they're shellfish!

Q: Why do fish like to eat worms?

Because they get hooked on them!

Q: What is a shark's favorite sandwich?

Peanut Butter and Jellyfish

Q: What's black and white and red all over?

A zebra with a sunburn!

Q: Why should you never blame a dolphin for doing something wrong?

Because they never do it on porpoise!

Q: What do you call a snowman in July?

A puddle!

Q: What's black and white and red all over?

A zebra with a sunburn!

Q: What kind of music do killer whales like?

They listen to the orca-stra!

LECTIONARY - JULY

- July 1** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43
- July 8** 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13
- July 15** 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29
- July 22** 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- July 29** 2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

LECTIONARY – AUGUST

- Aug. 5** 2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a
Psalm 51:1-12
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35
- Aug. 12** 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33
Psalm 130
Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2
John 6:35, 41-51
- Aug. 19** 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58
- Aug. 26** 1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11, 22-30,
41-43
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

JULY

Sunday, July 1

Greeters: Kermit & Pat Bohning
Acolyte: Sydney Hernandez
PowerPoint: Greg Trombley
Worship Leader: Marlys Tesch
Liturgist: John Klopp
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers:
Refreshments: Worship Team

Sunday, July 8

Greeters: Ralph & Sue Yont
Acolyte: Seth Hernandez
PowerPoint: Gary Wollenzien
Worship Leader: Pastor Paola
Liturgist: Paul Wojcik
Children's Time: Bill Pardoe
Flowers: Dick & Marlys Tesch
Refreshments:

Sunday, July 15

Greeters: Paul & Bonnie Wojcik
Acolyte: Cole Nease
PowerPoint: Harriet Young
Worship Leader: Judy Schimpf
Liturgist: Sheryl Crusan
Children's Time: Bill Pardoe
Flowers:
Refreshments:

Sunday, July 22

Greeters: Terry & Sue Ristic
Acolyte: Chase Hernandez
PowerPoint: Paul Becher
Worship Leader: Kermit Bohning
Liturgist: Doug Taylor
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers: Sue Lewinski's family
Refreshments: Sue Lewinski

Sunday, July 29

Greeters: Ed & Betty Padgett
Acolyte: Aaron Buxengard
PowerPoint: John Klopp
Worship Leader: Harriet Young
Liturgist: Ruth Teschner
Children's Time: Bill Pardoe
Flowers: Ralph & Sue Yont
Refreshments: Ralph & Sue Yont

AUGUST

Sunday, August 5

Greeters: Ken & Maggie Bringa
Acolyte: Brooke Nease
PowerPoint: Greg Trombley
Worship Leader: Maggie Bringa
Liturgist: Bonnie Wojcik
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers: Ed & Betty Padgett
Refreshments: Hauenstines

Sunday, August 12

Greeters: Hauenstines
Acolyte: Zach Buxengard
PowerPoint: Paul Becher
Worship Leader: Ken Schimpf
Liturgist: Carol Becher
Children's Time: Bill Pardoe
Flowers: Greg & Kim Newton
Refreshments:

Sunday, August 19

Greeters: Dale & Karla Henry
Acolyte: Anna Hobbins
PowerPoint: Harriet Young
Worship Leader: Kermit
Bohning
Liturgist: Greg Trombley
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers:
Refreshments:

Sunday, August 26

Greeters: Greg & Kim Newton
Acolyte: Abby Buxengard
PowerPoint: John Klopp
Worship Leader: Michelle
Lacock
Liturgist: Bob Lacock
Children's Time: Bill Pardoe
Flowers:
Refreshments: