

January 2019

# Salem United Methodist Church

## Growing Together on the Journey with Christ



*Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel, God **WITH** Us. (Isaiah 7:14)*

### A note from Pastor Paola

Happy New Year Salem!

Let us begin together this New Year with the Good News we received at Christmas: from now on God is **with** us; not above us, not even around us but **with** us. We are not alone anymore.

This reminds me of one of my favorite movies, *Forrest Gump*. Do you remember the heart breaking scene when, as a child, Forrest goes on the school bus and no one lets him sit next to them? In the end, a little girl named Jenny offers him a seat next to her. She was like an angel to him. From that day on, Forrest was not alone anymore; Jenny was **with** him.

One of the big themes throughout the Old Testament is God promising, "I will be **with** you". On Christmas, Immanuel, God **with** us, enters into

the world in the form of a little baby. Jesus grew up to be a man who was **with** the sinners, the prostitutes, beggars, foreigners, and soldiers and enemies. Jesus' signature word is "**with**". They put him on a cross because he was **with** the wrong crowd, but they couldn't take him away. Jesus' last words were: "I will be **with** you until the end of time". A small group of people took to heart that promise and went on to create the community of Christ, a place where no one should be left alone anymore.

This is our calling as a church before anything else: we become Immanuel, God **with** each of us, God **with** those who suffer in our community, God **with** those are lonely and are looking for a faith family.

When tragedy strikes, someone is alone, feels rejected, battles an illness, loses a loved one, or loses a job... nobody stands alone here. This is family, and Jesus is right here in the middle of it. This is the Message of Christmas, the Good News that we just received: **God with us**.

May this New Year be for us, our Salem family, the **WITH** year.

Blessings,  
Pastor Paola

### Inside this issue....

#### January Worship Theme:

"I Have a Friend Who..."

#### Leadership Retreat:

Saturday, Jan. 26



#### Chili Cook Off

Sunday, February 3  
Fundraiser for Haiti

#### February Worship Theme:

"Come Dream with Us"

#### Our Care Ministry Needs Your Help!

Meals and Financial Donations

#### Hope Center:

Salem Volunteer Opportunity

## Worship Series at Salem



January 2019

We all have friends who believe things differently from what we often believe. Salem is a place where people can come with questions and doubts, where we can learn together, serve each other within a community that doesn't judge us, but encourage and challenge us to grow closer to Christ. We hope you can use this opportunity to invite your friends to worship with you at Salem.

### January 6

I have a friend who...believes that you don't need to go to church to worship God.  
(Isaiah 66:1-2 and Acts 2:43-47)

### January 13

I have a friend who....believes that human suffering proves that there is no God.  
(Job 1:13-22 and Job 42:1-6, 12-16)

### January 20

I have a friend who ...believes that science and faith are not compatible.  
(Genesis 1:1-5)

### January 27

I have a friend who....believes that God is judgmental.  
(Genesis 3:8-24)

### February 3

I have a friend who....believes that all religions are the same.  
(Genesis 12:1-9)

Come Dream With Us

*Visioning the future of Salem.*

February

**Visioning the Future: Up, In, Out**

### February 10 "UP"

Developing a transforming relationship with God

### February 17 "IN"

Inviting into an authentic community with each other

### February 24 "OUT"

Reaching out in service and mission

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,  
and your plans will succeed.*

Proverbs 16:3

### March 3

Transfiguration Sunday with Communion

Looking ahead...

### Lenten Season: "Yearly Check Up"

By choice or by compulsion, many of us get a yearly physical to check the state of our health. As important as it is to monitor your physical well-being, it is infinitely more important to monitor your spiritual well-being. This Lent, we will take some time to check how it is with our soul throughout the various areas of our lives.



**To all Church council members, Salem ministry staff, marketing team and former facility task force:**

You are warmly invited to take part in the **Salem Leadership Retreat at**

**First UMC on Saturday, January 26, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.** We are meeting at First United Methodist Church at 121 Wisconsin Ave. in Waukesha.

As we kick off a new year, we are opening ourselves to become the church God is calling us to be. 2019 will bring many new opportunities, blessings and challenges. This retreat will set aside some time for clarification and visioning. The facilitator will be Chris Taylor. Lunch will be provided. If you did not RSVP yet, please send your reservation to the church office at [office@salemonthehill.org](mailto:office@salemonthehill.org)

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL** **January** **Teaching Plan**



### **Sunday, January 6**

Communion Sunday, no class

### **Sunday, January 13**

Children: The Rich Man and Lazarus

Teens: Real Conversations, KIVA report, set paint day

Confirmation at 10:30 am

### **Sunday, January 20**

Children: Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman

### **Sunday, January 28**

Children: The Road to Emmaus

Teens: Real Conversations, KIVA

## **What time is it?**

It's time for the second annual cook-off to benefit the Haiti malnutrition project. This year we will have a Chili tasting contest right after church on February 3rd. All the chefs are men who are out to prove that THEIR chili is the best tasting! Bill Pardoe has returned to try to win the title, but he is being challenged by two Salem newcomers: Scott McMurray and Doug Taylor. Who will win the coveted trophy? Come and make a donation to the Haiti project (see below) and then vote for your favorite chili!



## **Medical Mission: Wilner's Work**

Last year Salem took on a new project to support the salary of Wilner, Program Assistant Director, of the Medika Mamba program at St. Joseph Clinic in Thomassique, Haiti. The reason for this connection

was, in part, due to a visit by Pastor Paola to Haiti to visit Betta, her daughter, where she was serving as a fellow for a non-profit called Medical Missionaries and helped in their medical malnutrition program.

We had a very successful "Battle of the Lasagna Chefs" and were able to provide \$1800 for Wilner's salary! Wilner has shared with Betta and her fellows that he is extremely grateful for the support Salem has offered. Wilner is a wonderful provider of hope for many families in Thomassique, including his own! He wanted to especially thank you all for financially supporting him, because it has allowed his children to continue in their education. One of his sons is now studying at the university with hopes of becoming a physician.

While we believe that Wilner would continue taking leadership in this program based solely on his passion for serving the children of this community, Salem's financial support ensures all this important work will continue in the coming year here at the clinic.

So mark your calendar for February 3 for the Salem Chili Cook Off! Help us help Wilner as he works to provide nutrition to the children of Thomassique!





The next Confirmation Class will be on Sunday, **January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM**. The theme for the class will be: "Why We Worship the Way We Do".

### Adult Class Sunday Mornings

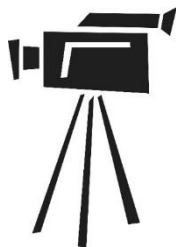
#### "Seeing Jesus in the Movies"

We really enjoyed advent class, so we're continuing with the same format for our this adult class series. We'll be viewing film clips and finding characteristics of Christ in secular movies. Join us Sundays at 10:30 am in the fellowship hall. Please sign up on the poster on the kiosk in the narthex. Thank you!

**Jan 13** "Life is Beautiful" (1997) *Romans 5:2-5*

**Jan 20** "Pay it Forward" (2000) *Mark 10:45*

**Jan 27** "Radio" (2003) *Matthew 25:31-46*



### Emergency Training – January 14

The Waukesha Fire Department has offered to visit Salem to demonstrate techniques for emergency medical treatment. These techniques can save lives, especially in the event of an active shooter or other emergencies requiring trauma care while waiting on the arrival of EMTs. Members of Salem, physically able to care for an injured person on the floor or on the ground, are encouraged to attend. Training is expected to last 1 ½ hours and will take place at Salem on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in attending, please include your name on the sign up sheet located on the kiosk.



### Salem's Care Ministry Needs Your Help!

Many of you already know that Jim Prescott took a fall several days ago and had to have surgery. He anticipates eight weeks of recovery and physical therapy. Our Care Ministry Team wants to provide support--and we need your help!

We'd like to make sure Jim has two meals from us each week. If you can provide a meal, please contact Chris Taylor at [ctaylor64@gmail.com](mailto:ctaylor64@gmail.com) to make arrangements. We will use the church kitchen as a central location for food drop-off, and several of us will make sure Jim gets the meals.

Also, we need financial contributions to offset occasional over-the-counter medications, laundry service, transportation, and other needs. When making your financial donation, please make your check out to Salem UMC, with a memo: Care Ministry. If giving cash, please place it in an envelope and clearly mark it. We will make sure Jim gets what he needs, and remaining funds will be used for future care needs.

If you have questions or want to contribute a meal or financial resources, get in touch with Chris. Thank you!

### Salem Hope Center Volunteer Opportunity

Salem will be helping with the evening meal at the Hope Center on Friday, February 8th. The Hope Center, located at 502 N. East Avenue, serves

Waukesha County residents who are in need. The center has been serving around 80-90 people at each meal. The Salem team will provide: 6-8 servers, 8 dozen cookies, and 10 gallons of milk. Volunteers should arrive at 5:00. The meal will be served at 5:30. Please sign up on the kiosk and help make a difference in your community.





## Women in the Middle

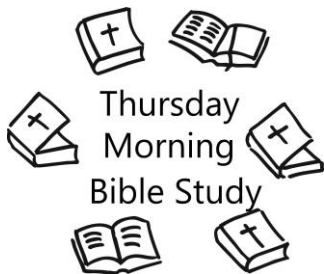
Our next gathering will be a holiday white elephant party at Eileen Fischer's home on Friday, Jan. 11, at 6:00 pm. Please bring an appetizer to share. For the future, we are considering an overnight or day retreat at a local retreat center. We're discussing topics to cover for our next session. Look for these details in the announcement sheet or future Tidings. Please see Pastor Paola if you have any questions.

### From Our Outreach Team: Thank you Salem!!!

On behalf of the Outreach Team, thank you all for your wonderful support of our Christmas projects! The gifts were all delivered to our three families, and the gift cards and stamps were dropped off to ERAs (formerly Interfaith) for the Holiday Giving program as well! We collected gift cards and stamps with a monetary value of \$198!!! Thanks again!

#### Looking forward to February:

Salem will be hosting the Undie Sunday Giving campaign to help fill Hope Center's Clothing Closet again this year. More details to follow, but it's not too early to start watching for sales on socks and underwear! These are two items that Hope Center has trouble keeping in stock. All sizes are welcome. Our collection will start in February. Thank you from the Outreach team.



Looking ahead.... Our February class will meet on **FEBRUARY 7th at 8:00 AM** at church. We hope you can join us. We will serve coffee! No preparation is needed.

## BAPTISM

We rejoiced as **Simona Cababa** was baptized at Salem on Sunday, January 6. Simona is the daughter of James Cababa and Aimee Agpoon. Her grandparents are Jose and Perla Agpoon. Simona was born on July 23, 2018. Simona's dad, a professional chef, provided special refreshments for us following worship on January 6. Thank you, James!

### From Lois Hanson....

"I would like to express my deepest gratitude for all my friends at Salem who were so supportive of me at the loss of my son, Kris. When I walked into the sanctuary for Kris' funeral, I was in awe of how beautiful it was. I don't think I've seen a more beautiful church in my life. And the people at Salem are beautiful too! Thank you for all you have done for me."



### Bible Verses of Renewal & Hope for a New Year

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." **Lam. 3:22-23**

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." **Is. 43:18-19**

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." **2 Cor. 5:17**

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." **Acts 3:19**

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." **Jer. 29:11**

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." **Prov. 3:5-6**



Jan. 2	Bill Young
5	Connor Fischer
8	Richard Dick
8	Josh Lindsay
8	Zachary Buxengard
11	Ken Schimpf
12	Carol Becher
12	John Hobbins
13	JonaLee Feller
14	Brenda Lindsay
15	George Agpoon
15	Brian Campbell
16	Brennen Fischer
18	Michelle McMurray
19	Gladys Roszkowski
30	Eileen Fischer
30	JoAnn Hauenstine
31	Judy Roberts

## JANUARY LECTIONARY

Jan. 6	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Jan. 13	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Jan. 20	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11
Jan. 27	Nehemiah 8:1-2, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21

## Serving Salem in January

### Sunday, January 6

Greeters: Dale & Karla Henry  
Acolyte: Sydney Hernandez  
PowerPoint: Gary Wollenzien  
Worship Leader: Marlys Tesch  
Liturgist: Gary Wollenzien  
Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
Flowers:  
Refreshments: Agpoons

### Sunday, January 13

Greeters: Jon & Vicky Nease  
Acolyte: Seth Hernandez  
PowerPoint: Paul Becher  
Worship Leader: Kermit Bohning  
Liturgist: Carol Becher  
Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
Flowers:  
Refreshments: Bechers

### Sunday, January 20

Greeters: Ed & Betty Padgett  
Acolyte: Chase Hernandez  
PowerPoint: Greg Trombley  
Worship Leader: Harriet Young  
Liturgist: Sheryl Crusan  
Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
Flowers:  
Refreshments:

### Sunday, January 27

Greeters: Nick & Jenny Tonz  
Acolyte: Aaron Buxengard  
PowerPoint: John Klopp  
Worship Leader: Maggie Bringa  
Liturgist: Greg Trombley  
Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
Flowers:  
Refreshments:

