

January 2020

Salem United Methodist Church

Growing Together on the Journey with Christ



A note from Pastor Paola

Knock Knock!
Who's there?
Heaven!
Heaven who?
Heaven seen you in ages!

Ok, maybe it was not enough to make you laugh, but hopefully it made you smile a little. ☺

The scripture above reminds us that laughter and joy are the best medicine. As it turns out, laughter, fun, and joy boost the immune system, relax muscles, aid circulation, improve mood, lower anxiety and protect against heart disease. And here's the best part: they enrich social connection.

God created us in his image. God is a God of Joy.

When we are lacking joy, we feel depressed, exhausted and depleted.

I found that my joy is controlled by the ups and downs of my life that easily steal my joy away.

I believe this can happen to us, because we do things in the wrong order, like this:

Achievement: Work, and work insanely long hours to build something

Significance: Get recognition for the achievement

Sustenance: Assume that recognition will be fulfilling

Acceptance: Take your place as the recognized expert

Jesus achieved sustaining joy by doing things in the **opposite order**:

Acceptance: Know that God accepts you without proving anything

Sustenance: Fill your spirit with prayer, church, friendship, and community

Significance: Know that God fills you with gifts, and when you use them, you find meaning

Achievement: From God's power, great things will happen

Let's begin this New Year with this kind of joy.

In worship for the next two months, we will learn the secret of joy from the best sermon ever told, Jesus' sermon, the Sermon on the Mountain.

Break the blues of winter with a joy that cannot be stolen from you.

Invite family and friends to worship with you! Our souls starve for joy!!

Have a joyful New Year,

Blessings,
Pastor Paola

Inside this issue....

Winter Worship Theme:
"The Eight Pillars of JOY"

New Sunday Morning Class:
Begins Jan. 12
"Unafraid: Living with Courage & Hope in Uncertain Times"

Get to Know Mary Jo Martin,
Our new Coordinator of Children & Family Ministries

Food Pantry Sunday: Jan. 12



Sunday, February 9
Fundraiser for Haiti

Worship Opportunities

Winter Worship Series:

The Eight Pillars of Joy

*"Our mouths were filled with laughter, our
tongues with songs of joy. The Lord has done
great things for us, and we are filled with joy."*

Psalm 126

Let's make 2020 a year filled with joy, laughter,
love and hope! Open your heart to the sermon on
the mount where Jesus teaches us the way to joy
even in the midst of sorrow.

January 5 (Communion Sunday) Matthew 5:1-4
Humor Have a wholehearted belly laughing!

January 12 Matthew 5:5-8
Humility Laugh at the imperfect you

January 19 Matthew 5:43-48
Compassion Let love transform your life

January 26 Matthew 6:9-11
Gratitude Open your heart to gifts

February 2 (Communion Sunday) Matt. 6:12; 14-15
Forgiveness Free yourself from the past

February 9 Matthew 6:19-24
Generosity In giving we receive

February 16 Matthew 6:25-34
Perspective Look at it from a different angle

February 23 Matthew 7:1-5
Acceptance Welcome pain, imperfection, and
beauty

Looking ahead...



Lent 2020

Stop! One Way! Road Narrows!

Watch out for road signs!

Have you noticed any special signs on your path
recently? Did you ever wonder how to recognize
God's signs?

Join us during Lent in March & April as we learn
how to pay attention to signs from God that
point us toward our greater purpose for which
we were created.

March 1 (Communion) The First Sunday in Lent
The Burning Bush **Exodus 3**

March 8 The Second Sunday in Lent
The Gentle Breeze **1 King 19:11-18**

March 15 The Third Sunday in Lent
The Ladder **Genesis 28:10-22**

March 22 The Fourth Sunday in Lent
A Mighty Storm **Jonah 1**

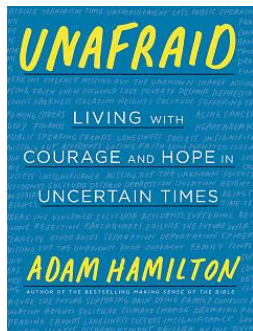
March 29 The Fifth Sunday in Lent
A Friend's Voice **2 Samuel 12:1-15**

April 5 Palm Sunday
A Humble Donkey **Matthew 21:1-11**





Unafraid: Living with Courage & Hope in Uncertain Times Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM January 12 – February 23



Let's start this New Year with joy, facing our fears with the power of faith. Join Pastor Paola starting Sunday, January 12, in a new Adult class. As a guide, we'll be using the book, *Unafraid*, by Adam Hamilton. You may purchase the book on Amazon if you'd like. We will

understand the nature of fear, and through the eyes of faith we will learn about and discuss worrying themes such as:

- Crime race terrorism politics
- Loneliness, insignificance, failure
- Change missing out and finance
- Aging, illness, dying

WE DID IT!!

Praise God for his blessings! We have finished 2019 in the black! Thanks everyone, for your financial support this year.

Note: In the narthex you can find the 2020 offering envelopes. Please take yours and help us to save postage! You may also want to consider an electronic auto-pay direct from your bank to the church. This is a wonderful way to consistently give to our ministries at Salem, without having to remember to write a check!



Refreshment and Altar Flowers Sign-up

New 2020 sign up sheets are up on the kiosk! Sign up to provide refreshments for fellowship time after worship. Salem enjoys treats! ☺ Also, think about signing up to provide

altar flowers or a plant for a special occasion, to honor someone (birthday, anniversary), or in memory of a loved one. Thank you!

Travel & Mission Opportunity: Trip to Italy June 16-30, 2020 *****

Important Informational Meeting: Sunday, Jan. 12 at 4:00 PM

Pastor Paola will be leading a trip Italy for those interested in our Salem family. This will be a spiritual trip, combining travel on the Amalfi coast, some mission work with children in a Methodist center by Naples, and ending with three days in Rome.

The first week we will stay in an *agriturismo* with day trips to the Amalfi coast, Naples, Pompeii, etc. We will then do three days of mission work at Casa Mia, a Methodist mission center dedicated to work with underprivileged children. During that time will lead a special project (craft, gardening...) with the children and the staff. We will end with three days in Rome, staying in a house connected with the Methodist Church. Every evening we will gather for worship and reflection over the day.

This experience has the goals of seeing beautiful places, working in mission, and growing spiritually and in fellowship with each other. During some of the days, we will have the option to spend some time apart from all of the group.

The group will not be more than 20, because a bigger number will take away flexibility and ability to change plans and function. This means the team will be formed first come, first served. Priority is given to Salem family. If any room is left, we will open to friends.

There will be a lot of walking on this trip, so participants will need to be able to walk on uneven surfaces (cobblestone) in hilly towns, several hours a day.

Please join Pastor Paola for an important informational meeting on Sunday, January 12, at 4:00 pm in the fellowship hall. There will be further details, such as cost, and you will have an opportunity to sign up for the trip.

Church Council Meetings

Both Finance and Church Council will now meet the THIRD THURSDAY of every month! This allows Pastor Paola to keep Mondays open for her Sabbath day. We will be welcoming Marsha Everson as our new Church Council Chairperson.

For this month:

Finance: 6:30 pm January 16

Church Council: 7:15 pm January 16



Salem Building Team

Just a quick update. The Building Team met twice in December. Our focus remains on identifying changes and improvements for our entire building. We also spent a lot of time looking at options for our new outdoor sign. Often this involves sending questions and changes to the sign company and then waiting for answers and new drawings as to what the sign would look like. Nothing worthwhile happens quickly! We will meet on Tuesday, January 7th at 6:00 pm.

New reads for cold winter days!

If you want to read exciting books you just can't put down, this series of Biblical fiction is for you! The first book, [A Light on the Hill](#) follows a Hebrew woman who escaped her capture in Jericho when the walls fell. She is branded by the Canaanites and must return to her home, only to find herself on trial for murder. The other two books, [Shelter of the Most High](#) and [Until the Mountains Fall](#), follow other women of this time period.

Mitch Albom's book, [Have a little Faith](#), is not new, but so appropriate for the times we live in. Everyone will find the message of respecting other's beliefs to be valuable.

With [The Pattern of Her Heart](#), we have completed another Tracie Peterson series (The Lights of Lowell), which takes place in Massachusetts. Peterson's books are always full of history and drama!



Food Pantry Sunday is January 12

Please bring in non-perishable food, personal care products, and monetary donations for the Waukesha County Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity!



Mary Jo Martin: Coordinator of Children and Family Ministries at Salem UMC

I am very excited to officially start my new position. Here is a little about myself: I am a reading specialist in West Allis School District, Kindergarten - 8th grade. My husband Larry and I have two daughters Kayla and Katelyn and a soon to be son-in-law, Nate. We have been very active in the past with children and teen faith. I understand the importance of fostering our children and teens in today's world to have faith and build a church family. I hope to challenge our children to respond to God's call to serve in their communities and world by providing opportunities for nurture and growth. My personal goals are:

- To develop adult leaders as effective youth mentors
- Become a liaison between the church and other community organizations, people, and resources that relate to youth
- To grow number of families with children and youth at Salem UMC
- Develop an Outreach Program for our children and families in the community and create opportunities for service and mission, in collaboration with Salem's Outreach committee.

In pursuit of my goals I hope to help experience God through fellowship and fun. Some of my ideas include: special events for holidays, VBS, more interaction from our youth & children within worship services, marketing out in the community (parades, door to door Food Pantry collections), teen lock-ins, increase our musical talents, and develop Outreach services within Waukesha County.

I look forward to any suggestions and also volunteers!

- Mary Jo



January Sunday School Schedule:

January 5 Communion Sunday

No Sunday School

January 12 Children & Teens and Sunday School

Teachers: Bill Pardoe and Greg Newton

January 19 Children's Sunday School

Teacher: Mary Jo Martin

****Children's Bell Choir practice 10:00-10:20**

January 26 Teens and Youth Sunday School

Teachers: Bill Pardoe and Eileen Fischer

**** Children's Bell Choir Practice 10:00-10:20**

Children's Bell Choir

Our children's bell choir will play the first Sunday of every month in worship, starting with Feb. 2, 2020. Practices will be on the 3rd and 4th Sunday of every month, following Sunday School (10:00-10:20 am.)

**HUGE
THANKS**

Thank you, Bill Pardoe, for serving as Sunday school coordinator for the past few years. You have given of your time, your heart, and your faith. We are so grateful. ☺

Christmas Giving at Salem

As you know, the Outreach Team did something a little different this year. Instead of having a "Giving Tree", we held a Toy Drive for the Christmas Clearing Council. **Salem donated 67 toys and books, 5 gift cards for teens (\$100), and 18 hats and gloves.** What a giving congregation we have here at Salem. The gifts became part of the worship service on December 8th, and what a "gift" the children and youth gave to us on that day!

We also collected gift cards and stamps to benefit Eras Senior Network. **Salem donated 30 gift cards and 9 books of stamps** which were delivered to Eras for their Holiday Giving Program. This program provides self-sufficiency care packages given to 350 low-income and isolated seniors and adults with disabilities in Waukesha County.

***Thank you so much Salem
for your support of our Outreach activities!***



Haiti Fundraiser

Sunday, February 9th

Two years ago, Salem took on a project to support the salary of Wilner, the Program Assistant Director at St Joseph Clinic in Thomassique, Haiti. The reason for this connection was due to Pastor Paola's daughter, Betta, working at the clinic in a non-profit called *Medical Missionaries* and helping in their medical malnutrition program. In 2018, Salem sent \$1,800 raised with a Lasagna Cook-off, and in 2019 we sent \$2,048 raised with a Chili Cook-off; this has ensured that important work will continue in the coming year with Wilner at the St. Joseph Clinic!

This year the Cook-Off theme is a Savory Egg Dish. On Sunday, February 9, our contestants will compete, and the winner will be awarded a trophy. You will make a free-will donation to be allowed to vote for your favorite egg dish. We have ONE chef who has agreed to enter, but we need at least one more to make a contest! Betta will be speaking that day to update us on the program. Please contact Gladys Roszkowski (262-594-5099) for more details or questions.

January

BIRTHDAYS

January 2	Bill Young
5	Connor Fischer
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
19	Gladys Roszkowski
30	Eileen Fischer
30	JoAnn Hauenstine
31	Judy Roberts



JANUARY LECTIONARY

Jan. 5	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Jan. 12	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17
Jan. 19	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40: 1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42
Jan. 26	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27: 1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

Serving at Salem in January

January 5

Greeters: Brian & Debbie Campbell
Acolyte:
PowerPoint: Gary Wollenzien
Worship Leader: Maggie Bringa
Liturgist: John Klopp
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers: Laura Knollenberg
Refreshments: Laura Knollenberg

January 12

Greeters: Rei & Edna Lesada
Acolyte:
PowerPoint: Paul Becher
Worship Leader: Marlys Tesch
Liturgist: Gary Wollenzien
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers:
Refreshments: Seegers

January 19

Greeters: Dale & Karla Henry
Acolyte:
PowerPoint: Harriet Young
Worship Leader: Don Callen
Liturgist: Julie Vang
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers:
Refreshments:

January 26

Greeters: Ed & Betty Padgett
Acolyte:
PowerPoint: John Klopp
Worship Leader:
Liturgist:
Children's Time: Pastor Paola
Flowers:
Refreshments: