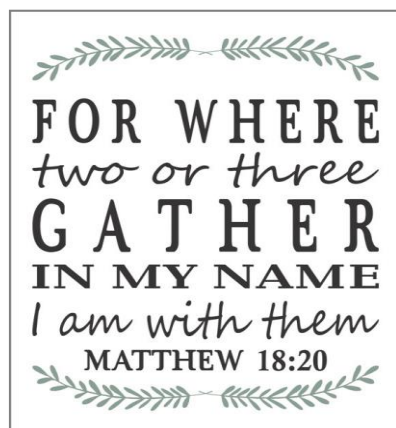


February 2020

# Salem United Methodist Church

## Growing Together on the Journey with Christ



### A note from Pastor Paola

There are days when I feel so discouraged and pessimistic about the future of our world, our country, our church denomination, and even my family. What divides us seems overwhelming, even stronger than what unites us. The desire to communicate and reach out to those who are different from us seems to become less every day. In fact, direct face-to-face communication is becoming rare. Meanwhile isolation and loneliness is rising to dangerous levels. The fear of the stranger has been rising, creating more anxiety and disconnections among people of all ages and backgrounds.

But there is a place that gives me hope. It is Salem on every Sunday morning as we gather in worship. And trust me, I am completely genuine as I say this.

We are different from each other. We have different opinions on many topics. We vote differently. We were brought up with different priorities and life expectations. We all have our

quirks and annoying qualities that can become challenging to tolerate at times. Yet we gather in worship together, we work in mission and outreach together, we dream and build the future of Salem together. We communicate (even if it is not always easy) face-to-face. And more importantly, we pray for each other, we bear each burdens, and we care for each other.

I am so blessed to be part of this community, and I hope you are too. You see, this is not our doing but it is God's doing. I believe that if you had to sum up in a single word what God is up to, what God's goal is in creating the universe and the people who inhabit it, the word would be **community**. In community, we recognize our humanity, our need for each other, our incompleteness, and our imperfections. In community, we recognize the need for our Redeemer.

And God is still in the business of redemption, specializing in bringing something very, very good out of something bad.

For this reason, Salem is a place that gives me hope and allows me to look into the future with joy, even in the midst of all the darkness inside and outside of us.

I can't wait to be in worship with you all this Sunday!

Blessings,  
Pastor Paola

### Inside this issue....

#### Winter Worship Theme

##### Continues:

"The Eight Pillars of JOY"

#### Sunday Morning Adult Class

##### Continues:

"Unafraid: Living with Courage & Hope in Uncertain Times"

#### Food Pantry

Sunday: Feb. 9



Sunday, February 9  
**Fundraiser  
for Haiti**

#### **LENT**

Worship Series  
Begins March 1st

Lenten Class begins  
March 8th

# 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.

*Remaining Sundays:*

**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

## Sunday Morning Class:

*Unafraid: Living with Courage & Hope in  
Uncertain Times*

**10:30 AM, through Feb. 23**

We are learning to face our fears with the power of faith. Pastor Paola is using the book, *Unafraid*, by Adam Hamilton, to lead us as we understand the nature of fear. Remaining classes:

Feb. 9: Failure, disappointing others, insignificance and loneliness

Feb. 16: Apocalypse, change, missing out, finances

Feb. 23: Aging, illness, dying and fear of the Lord

**Join us at any time!**



## 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  
(Lay Speaker: Bill Pardoe)  
A Friend's Voice **2 Samuel 12:1-15**

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





## Haiti Fundraiser Sunday, Feb. 9th

On February 9, we will find out who is the most EGG-cellent Egg Dish chef at Salem! Following worship, you will have an opportunity to

make a donation to the Medical Missionaries program in Haiti. You will then receive a small sample of each of our cook's egg dishes and a ticket. When you have decided which egg dish you like best, you will vote with your ticket. The tickets will be tallied to see who wins the Most Egg-Cellent Egg Dish trophy. The money collected goes to the salary of the Child Nutrition program director, Wilner, at the St. Joseph Clinic in Thomassique, Haiti. Can we top the \$2,715 we raised last year?? Knowing Salem's generosity, we are quite certain that Wilner's salary will be covered for another year.

Many children's lives will be saved as they are given *Medika Mamba* (peanut paste, powdered milk, oil, sugar, vitamins and minerals) to give them the protein they need to survive. If you aren't able to attend on Feb. 9th, you may make out a check to Salem with "Haiti Project" on the memo line. We'll be posting on the Outreach bulletin board how much money we raised AND who was crowned the Most EGG-cellent Chef at Salem!



## Read any good books lately?

If you need a good book to curl up with this winter, try some of our new reads. We have completed several series of books already in the library, including some Amish stories many of you enjoy. There are also some stand-alone books, which have received great reviews! One of these books is Finding Chika: A Little Girl, an Earthquake, and the Making of a Family. The author, Mitch Albom, and his wife took over an orphanage in Haiti after the earthquake in 2010. "Finding Chika" changed their lives forever. This book fits in so well with several of our *Pillars of Joy* theme, especially Compassion and Gratitude. Check the table in front of the library bulletin board for these and other great books!



**February 2** Communion Sunday – Children's Bell Choir play in worship

No Sunday School

**February 9** Children & Teens and Sunday School Teachers: Bill Pardoe and Greg Newton

**February 16** Children's Sunday School

Teacher: Mary Jo Martin

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

**February 23** Children & Teens Sunday School

Teachers: Bill Pardoe and Eileen Fischer

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



## Refreshment and Altar Flowers Sign-up

Sign up on the kiosk in the narthex 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!

## 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.

For this month:

Finance: 6:30 pm February 20

Church Council: 7:15 pm February 20





## Salem Building Team

At the last Building Committee meeting, we invited Mary Jo Martin, our Family & Children Ministries Coordinator to come and give us her ideas of the type of classroom space that might be needed in the future. We walked through several areas with her and looked at the various possibilities.

That same evening the Committee finished its room-by-room assessment of the back of the church. At our next meeting in January, we compiled a list of changes and construction priorities. After this, we will be inviting several design/construction representatives to walk through the church and give their ideas on the changes that we are considering.

The Committee continues to work out some of the details on the outdoor electronic sign for Salem. Hopefully we are nearing completion on that and will be able to present this information to the congregation for their approval in the next month or so.



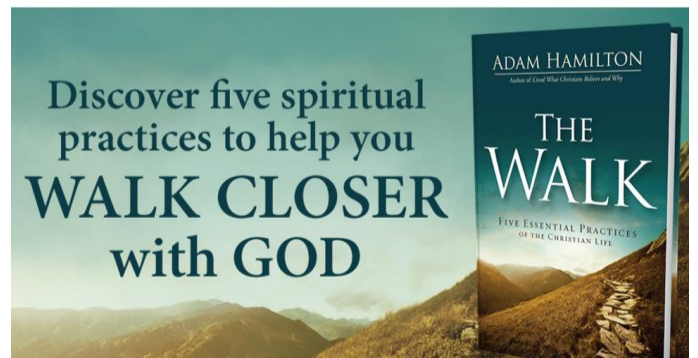
The Trustees have evaluated several proposals for the replacement of the church entry doors, and all members agreed to the selection of Milwaukee Plate Glass as the contractor. The work will be done in accordance with

the specifications as previously outlined in the Tidings. A time frame for the work will be provided soon.

Salem continues to provide meeting space for the three AA groups who hold their weekly meetings in our church. Donation envelopes are provided to these groups to facilitate the ease of processing their generous monthly contributions.

The Trustees have selected the coat rack and audio system area near the sanctuary on the north side of the building as the location for the new entrance to the church from the New Perspectives Living Center. We want these doors to send a message to our new neighbors that they are welcome to attend our Sunday worship services and other events at Salem. This recommended door location has been forwarded to the Building Committee for approval.

Dave Pauly has installed a glass window on the youth room door, according to the *Safe Sanctuaries* policies established by the WI state conference recommendations.



## Lenten Adult Class: "The Walk"

Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM

March 8 – April 5

- ❖ Worship & Prayer
- ❖ Studying the Bible
- ❖ Serving Others
- ❖ Giving Generously
- ❖ Sharing the Faith

We will be exploring these practices, their New Testament foundations, and what it looks like to pursue these practices daily in our personal lives and together in the life of the church. Deepen your walk with Christ this Lent!

Book by Adam Hamilton is available on Amazon. Please see Pastor Paola if you need a book on scholarship!



UM Summer Camp registration is now open! Pamphlets and information are available in the narthex. More information and registration is online at <https://wiumcamps.org/> Pine Lake Camp and Camp Lucerne offer experiences

for all ages, abilities, families, grandparents and mother/daughter camps, with weekend to week-long adventures. Please check out the display in the narthex or on line.

## Food Pantry Sunday is February 9th

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



The Association of Waukesha  
Congregations

Presents an Interfaith Event

## **“A Concert to Shelter”**

To benefit the Waukesha Winter Shelter  
for the homeless

**3:00 PM Sunday, February 23**

An Epic Combined Choir

First United Methodist Church

121 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha

Free admission, Freewill Offering Collected



On Ash Wednesday, February 26, we are invited to join First United Methodist Church, 121 Wisconsin Avenue in Waukesha, for a potluck (6:00-6:45 pm) followed by an informal worship experience with the Imposition of Ashes (6:45-7:30 pm).

### **Journey to Italy Update**

A team of 16 people has been formed to take the trip to Italy in June. We will be meeting once a month to plan the mission work we will be doing in a center for underprivileged children outside Naples. Thanks to Home Depot for donating a generous amount of building kits for children that we will use in Naples. We will be preparing some music programs and bringing over with us our children's handbells to use with the children at the center. During our meetings we will learn some Italian and plan the other parts of the trip. The trip is June 16-30. Please keep the team in your prayers as they begin this exiting journey together.

### **Children's Bell Choir**

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

### **Volunteer Opportunity at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin**

Hopefully you have all met Mikayla and her family who have been guests at Salem. Mikayla is a very close friend with Abby Buxengard, and Abby invited her to come to church. Mikayla and her family have spent many days at Children's Hospital. Mikayla's mom Melissa has created a program to provide a new coffee cart delivery system to the families on the West 7 Unit of Children's Hospital. Her hope was to bring a smile and fresh beverage to the moms, dads, and caregivers who can't easily leave their child's bedside.

The goal is to get at least 12 people interested in forming a rotating schedule of 1 weekend day per quarter to serve; it takes about 1.5 hours to do the coffee rounds. This way each volunteer would only have to commit to 1.5 hours a quarter. This might sound small to some, but to a family who is stuck in a small room, maybe strapped financially, feeling alone, a smile and hot latte or coffee can go a long way! This is going to be made possible thanks to the Children's Hospital Foundation and the generosity of everyone who participated in the Krausenhausen golf outing this past year.

Becoming a volunteer is a bit of a process, but it is totally worth it. If you are interested in joining the coffee crusade, complete the initial volunteer intake form at:

<https://chw.vsyslive.com/pages/app:adultapp>

Volunteers must be over 18 years old. Please complete the initial form (linked above) so that you can attend the orientation meeting on March 3rd at 5:15pm. Feel free to reach out to Mikayla's mom Missy with any questions at [missykrause@hotmail.com](mailto:missykrause@hotmail.com)

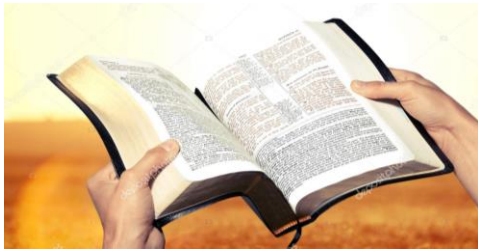
### **Congregational Meeting**

On Sunday, March 1, there will be a brief congregational meeting in the sanctuary after worship. We will hear about the progress of our Building Team and an update on our new outdoor sign. Exciting changes at Salem will affect all of us, so please plan on attending. ☺

# February

## BIRTHDAYS

February 7 Ken Reichert  
 9 Marsha Everson  
 15 Brian Fischer  
 21 Greg Trombley  
 25 Cory Buxengard  
 25 Cole Nease  
 28 Kim Newton  
 28 Bob Lacock



## FEBRUARY LECTIONARY

**Feb. 2** Micah 6:1-8  
 Psalm 15  
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
 Matthew 5:1-12

**Feb. 9** Isaiah 58:1-9a  
 Psalm 112:1-10  
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12  
 Matthew 5:13-20

**Feb. 16** Deuteronomy 30:15-20  
 Psalm 119:1-8  
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9  
 Matthew 5:21-37

**Feb. 23** Exodus 24:12-18  
 Psalm 99  
 2 Peter 1:16-21  
 Matthew 17:1-9

## *Serving at Salem*

### February 2

Greeters: Doug & Brenda Lindsay  
 Acolyte:  
 PowerPoint: Gary Wollenzien  
 Worship Leader: Kermit Bohning  
 Liturgist: Peggy Barnes  
 Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
 Flowers:  
 Refreshments: Kermit & Pat Bohing

### February 9

Greeters: Cory & Laurie Buxengard  
 Acolyte:  
 PowerPoint: Paul Becher  
 Worship Leader: Don Callen  
 Liturgist: Carol Becher  
 Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
 Flowers: Brian & Eileen Fischer  
 Refreshments: Brian & Eileen Fischer

### February 16

Greeters: Paul & Carol Becher  
 Acolyte:  
 PowerPoint: Harriet Young  
 Worship Leader: Maggie Bringa  
 Liturgist: Paul Wojcik  
 Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
 Flowers: Sue Lewinski  
 Refreshments: Sue Lewinski

### February 23

Greeters: Ken & Maggie Bringa  
 Acolyte:  
 PowerPoint: John Klopp  
 Worship Leader: Mary Jo Martin  
 Liturgist: Katie Martin  
 Children's Time: Pastor Paola  
 Flowers: Ken Bringa  
 Refreshments: Ken Bringa