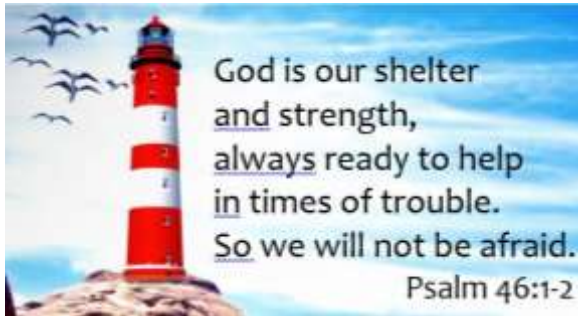




## Salem United Methodist Church

Growing Together on the Journey with Christ



### A note from Pastor Paola

Three days ago our Governor issued a shelter in place (*Safer at Home*) order. Only a few months ago, who could have foreseen this coming? I had so many plans, places to go, people to see. I was actually supposed to be visiting my son and daughter in law right now. We already had a party planned with all their friends with an immense quantity of pasta.

During the last few weeks, I have been cancelling everything, all plans, all parties, all traveling all events in my personal life and at church, just like many of you. Truly, I have moments of great sadness, grief, and even anger. I also have times of great anxiety as my entire family lives in the red zone of the virus in Italy.

This COVID-19 has entered violently in our lives taking away all control from our hands.

Yet, in the midst of all of this, I have been experiencing moments of pure joy, comfort, and peace. Interesting enough, many of the things I usually do when I look for comfort I cannot to do now. But comfort and peace has been taking me by surprise in the most unexpected moments in the last couple of weeks.

More than ever, I feel my shelter is in God. The hand of God is my shelter. Jesus is the only one who is not in quarantine:

He walks with me,  
And He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own.

Dear Salem family, as you shelter in place for your own and everyone else's safety, remember you are also in the most powerful shelter.

Please find comfort in in God's hand, He is your shelter.

Be safe.  
Blessings, Paola



### Inside this issue....

**Changes in how we worship during the *Safer at Home* order**

**Zoom Meetings**  
Salem is setting up Zoom, a video conferencing app for meetings

**Waukesha Food Pantry News**  
How is the Food Pantry dealing with the added precautions during the Covid19 pandemic?

**Salem's Children & Family Ministries**  
How are we staying connected to this vital ministry at Salem?

**Stay in touch with Pastor Paola!**  
Please email her at Pastor@SalemOnTheHill.org  
Or call her: 920-420-7205

# The building is closed, but salem is alive and active!

## Worship

We will continue to record Sunday worship and send it to you on Saturday night as a link to a YouTube video. Please share the link with everyone. We also post it on Facebook, so please share it on your own Facebook page so that we can spread God's word of Hope. What a great time to share the Good News!!

We are also working at setting up a Facebook Live streaming service for Good Friday. Stay tuned! Meanwhile, make sure to "like" Salem's Facebook page so that you will be able to be part of the live service on Good Friday.

## Church gatherings and meetings

Even though the church is closed, we have set up a Salem Zoom account so that we will be able to resume our meetings, hopefully small group gatherings, and even Bible study. We will keep you posted.

## Generosity

Giving is what helps us to feel needed and filled with purpose in a time like this. Call, send cards, email, or send a text to church members, especially people you may not be close to. What a great opportunity to cultivate new friendships and grow new connections.

## Salem phone chain of love

Ten Salem members are serving in our phone chain. Each of them is assigned to a group of people to call weekly. Please share with them your joys, concerns and needs.

## Financial Giving

It is also crucial that during this time we continue our regular financial giving. Please send your check to church. We pick up the mail daily. Email or call our church treasurer, Kermit Bohning, if you have any questions. (kbohning1@gmail.com) As soon as we reopen the church doors, we want to be able to resume all our ministries, not in a place of struggle but in a place of strength.



In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of you have been asking how you can help! The Waukesha Food Pantry is in need of many items, especially during this time. In the last couple days, their daily number of clients has almost doubled! AND they are adding new clients every day.

The Waukesha Food Pantry has temporarily changed how they serve clients by switching to curbside service and giving items in prepackaged bags/boxes. HOWEVER, the shelves are getting lower every day. Much needed items include cereal, canned pasta, and chunky (meat) soups, canned fruits & vegetables, and shelf stable protein (tuna, chicken, and peanut butter).

The Outreach Team would like to make it easy for you to donate items. If you would like to donate food pantry items, please bring them to Salem. However, instead of our normal drop off location inside Salem, please place the items in the bin **inside the Bell Tower!** As you approach the east entry doors to the narthex, the bell tower can be found on your left. A sign is on the door at the base of the tower. We will pick up the items every few days and deliver directly to the food pantry.

Monetary donations are always appreciated in lieu of purchasing items to donate. To donate, make your check to Salem UMC with "Food Pantry" in the memo line, and mail the check to church. You can also make a donation on the Food Pantry's website. You may even want to consider setting up a monthly ongoing donation directly from your checking account to the Food Pantry!

**Bless you Salem for all you do to help others in times of need!**

## Big News from Mujila Falls!

Our new missionary, Temba Nkomozepe, at Mujila Falls Agricultural Centre in Zambia Africa, along with advice from our former missionary, Paul Webster, has sent the following message to us:

*I thank Salem for continually supporting Mujila Falls! Paul and I have been wishing for a small dormitory that can house, say 20 men and 20 women. I roughly estimate the building will cost between \$4,000 to \$8,000. We hold training programs with the Peace Corps, and each time about 30 counterparts are crammed into our living room, and the volunteers camp in a barn or just outside in the open. It is my belief that once decent accommodations are available, more women and more trainees funded by institutions will be coming to learn at our center.*

*Peace and Blessings.*

*In mission together, Temba*

**\*\*\*Due to the current health situation, we have decided to postpone our TREATS FOR TEMBA to a later date to be determined.** This will ensure a successful pie sale fundraiser to support Mujila Falls. Stay tuned for more information!

## Sewing Protective Masks

As many of you are aware, there is a shortage of protective facemasks for our medical personnel in different parts of the country and around the world! Can you help support our medical staff and others by making a face mask? There are many patterns available on the internet and JoAnn's Fabrics' website has links to many as well. One CDC compliant mask can be found at [www.deaconess.com/masks](http://www.deaconess.com/masks)

While fabric masks are not to be used in the care of COVID-19 patients, according to the CDC, fabric masks are a crisis response option when other supplies have been exhausted. Fabric masks can also be helpful in other areas of patient care as supplies of PPE are depleted.

Please drop off to Salem in the food pantry box in the bell tower, or JoAnn Fabrics for distribution. If you have any questions, please call Becky Henderson at 262-352-0646.

## Tales from the Trustees

A new **COLOR** copier has been ordered for the Salem office! After months of analyzing our needs and comparing functions and costs between three local copier companies, the trustees were presented with a proposal to buy a factory new machine that copies and prints color. We have decided that the church will buy our own toner as needed rather than subscribe to a dealer-supplied maintenance.

The narthex entry door replacement project is proceeding with doors now being fabricated by the manufacturer. Trustees expect installation next month. Timing of installation depends on delivery date and weather conditions. Security of our building will not be compromised during installation period.

Meanwhile, trustees have kept up with daily tasks to keep things humming:

- Reset clocks for Daylight Savings Time
- Monitor water usage to detect leaks
- Replace burned out bulbs in front sign
- Review proposals for lawn mowing
- Reset flood alarm sensors
- Arrange for tree removal in parking lot.

If you have a concern about maintenance of our physical facilities that the trustees might be able to fix, leave us a note in the "trustees" mail box.

## \$\$\$ Financial Report \$\$\$

Our offering for the month, as of March 22, is \$15,869. Thank you for sending in your offering or using automatic donations through your bank!

We also are very grateful for your generosity in supporting the Waukesha Food Pantry. In the midst of such a challenging time, you have responded with extra giving during these uncertain days. Several items have been dropped off, and we also sent a check of \$734 to the Food Pantry.



From Mary Jo Martin:  
Hello everyone!  
I hope you received your packages in the mail! Thank you for those of you participating in our

Easter Card Outreach Project. If you could, please email or text me who you sent your card to. I am sure whoever receives a card, their day will be brightened! Thank you for participating.

Personal note from Mrs. Martin:

For the next few weeks, we continue in these challenging times. It is very important we make time for ourselves, get outside, and exercise. I have been telling all of my school students it is important to make some sort of routine to keep up with schoolwork, family time, and time for yourself.

Examples:

- \*Set an alarm for the same time each day during the “school week” so you keep consistency. This will help your brain and body function the same daily so you can better concentrate.
- \*Eat something in the morning and/or drink a FULL glass of water, this will wake your brain up and get you ready for the day!
- \*Make a schedule when to do schoolwork, do your chores, and have fun. AND STICK TO IT!

You and your families are on a phone chain, and I plan to check in with each and every one of you. If you'd like to email me, here is the address:  
[FamilyMinistries@SalemOnTheHill.org](mailto:FamilyMinistries@SalemOnTheHill.org)

**Sunday School News:**

I really miss seeing everyone. Remember your faith and keep praying. I am going to attempt a YouTube Video for Palm Sunday. This will be like a children's sermon. I will send another packet in the mail you can follow along with from home. (We will send out the YouTube link with Pastor Paola's Sunday message for April 5.) The topic for Palm Sunday, April 5, is the Easter Story told through symbols. You can follow along with the packets I send in the mail.

On Easter Sunday, April 12, we will have another lesson via YouTube. Details to come.

As we consider how to do life in the midst of mass confusion and widespread fear, one of our recent stories reminded me of Jesus' words in Matthew 6:

*“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink ... but seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”*

Blessings,  
Mary Jo



**We continue to be church together during this time!** More than ever it is essential we remain connected using all the possible tools we have. Since Amy will not be regularly in the office, we are inviting everyone to email, call or text to Pastor Paola: [pastor@salemonthehill.org](mailto:pastor@salemonthehill.org) (920-420-7205). You can share with her:

- Any request for prayer
- Any physical need you or someone you know has
- Any spiritual need you have
- Any new and creative ideas you have to stay connected
- Any gift of time or talents you have and would like to share with Salem family
- Any suggestion to serve and reach out in the community
- Any technological knowledge you have

Please don't hesitate... We want to hear from everyone!

*Need any toilet paper???*  
*We have extra to share,*  
*so please let us know!*



## Building Team Report

The Building Team voted to purchase new electronic signs for our church from *Signs and Lines*. The main sign will be

4 X 8 feet, with a reader board on one side with electronic messages that can be changed via the computer as needed. The other side of the sign will have a permanent message, name of Church, time of service, etc. Both sides will be backlit.

The second sign we are purchasing is an entrance sign that will be located near the present lamppost. The size of this sign is 42" x 54" and the name area will be 18" x 48". The size is dictated by the City of Waukesha. It will give the name and address of the Church. It will also be backlit, making it stand out at night. All masonry work for these signs will be done by a mason of our choice rather than *Signs and Lines*. This will save money.

The Building Team also voted to go with *Ott Development* as our contractor for the remodeling of Salem. According to the District Superintendent, "the team can sign a letter of intent as long as it didn't include a contract to proceed." He also said we could spend money to get preliminary drawings if necessary, however when we are ready to sign a contract with *Ott Development*, we will need to have a Church Conference to get the approval of the congregation. This has to be done in person.

Jeff Grahl from *Ott Development* and his architect, Brad Kropp from *Perspective Design* are willing to do an initial floor plan design and to walk through with various subcontractors in order to estimate costs for each area of our remodel AT NO EXPENSE TO US. This is very generous of them. It will give us a better idea as to what we can afford to do. We will look at all this new information at our next meeting.

## Updating our Church Directory

We are working at updating our church directory. You should have received a copy via email so you can check to make sure all of your information is correct. This is more important than ever! Once everything is updated, Amy will send out the final directory and you can print it yourself if you'd like. Otherwise we will print several copies.

## Hope Center Program Changes Due to COVID-19

Please keep the Hope Center and its volunteers in your prayers. Thank you, Salem.

The following is an email from Hope Center:

*To our guests, volunteers and donors:*

*We have been monitoring the COVID-19 situation and have had to make the difficult decision to suspend the majority of our programs starting Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. We plan to provide meals "to go" at our normal serving times, but we cannot allow guests to eat in the Day Center or congregate on the property after serving. We will not be operating at all on weekends. Our Clothing Shop will not be open, and we will not be accepting donations. We are asking volunteers to come in if they are comfortable, we still have plenty of work to do!*

*This is a difficult, but necessary decision. We understand the strain this will put on our guests. We do not have answers for many difficult questions they have. We unfortunately do not have a timeframe for when we will be open for full services. We will be working with the city and county to find out when we can reopen at full strength.*

## Healings Hearts Fundraiser Postponed

The annual Hope Dinner fundraiser for Healing Hearts, which was scheduled for April 25, has been tentatively rescheduled for SATURDAY, SEPT. 26. More information to follow when it becomes available.

**A prayer by Detrick Bonhoeffer  
written from his jail cell**

**Morning Prayer**

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.  
Help me to pray  
And to concentrate my thoughts on you;  
I can't do this alone.

In me there's darkness,  
But with you there's light;  
I'm lonely, but you don't leave me;

I'm feeble in heart, but with you there's help;  
I'm restless, but with you there's peace.  
In me there's bitterness, but with you there's  
patience;  
I don't understand your ways,  
But you know the way for me.

O Heavenly Father,  
I praise and thank you  
For rest in the night;  
I praise and thank you for this new day;  
I praise and thank you for all your goodness  
and faithfulness throughout my life.

You have granted me many blessings;  
Now let me also accept what's hard from your hand.  
You will lay on me no more than I can bear.  
You make all things work together for good for your  
children.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
You were poor and in distress, a captive and  
forsaken as I am.

You know all man's troubles;  
You abide with me when all men fail me;  
You remember and seek me;  
It's your will that I should know you and turn to you.  
Lord, I hear your call and follow;  
Help me.

O Holy Spirit,  
Give me faith that will protect me  
from despair, from passions, and from vice;  
Give me such love for God and men  
as will blot out all hatred and bitterness;  
Give me the hope that will deliver me  
from fear and faint-heartedness.

Amen.

**APRIL**  
Birthdays

April 15	Seth Hernandez
20	Maddi Loppnow
21	Karen Teschner
22	Dolores Panahon
28	Karen Hernandez
29	Mark Mattiaci



**APRIL LECTIONARY**

<b>April 5</b>	Isaiah 50:4-9 Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Phil 2:5-11
<b>April 12</b>	Acts 30:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Col 3:1-4 John 20:1-18
<b>April 19</b>	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31
<b>April 26</b>	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35