

# Salem United Methodist Church

June/July 2021

## Thoughts from Pastor Paola...

What does it take to disturb your serenity? In my case, it is mostly unexpected and unplanned changes that are completely out of my

control. When this happens, I repeat the serenity prayer to help me to deal with the unknown and get me steady on my feet. And let me tell you.... I have been praying this prayer more than ever during this past year. I am sure I am not alone. It has been a rough year. So many unwanted changes, so much struggle, so much loss, transition and adjusting.

As we come out of this year, we are changed. The post-pandemic world will require more changes and adjusting. Even coming back in worship together and restarting our activities and ministries at Salem is going to take adjusting, lots of love for each other and patience.

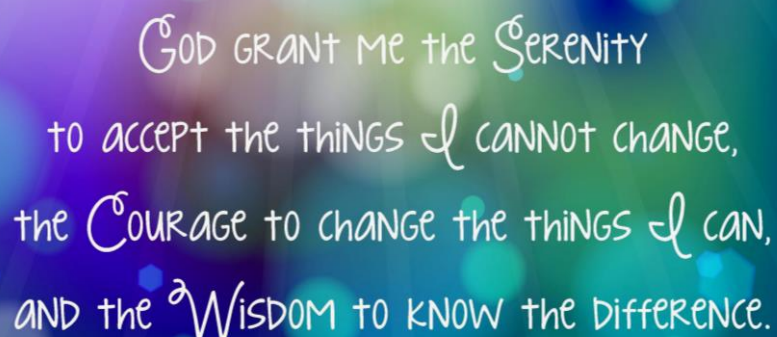
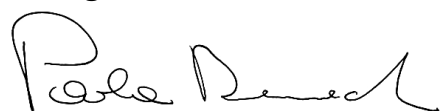
This short prayer can truly help us during this time. It reminds us **Who is the only One who can grant us serenity** during this time.

**Accepting** means that instead of regretting a past I cannot fix, or worrying about a future we cannot control, we are fully present in this moment as the place of God's presence and God's blessing.

And in the middle of all of this, **God calls us to have courage to change what we can**, facing the unknown, fear, risk, anxiety and uncertainty. Constant growth and transformation is the foundation of being a disciple of Christ. We can do it knowing the future is in God's hands and that He will guide us toward the New He has been preparing for us.

With this prayer on our lips, we enter into the new God is creating with us and through us.

Blessings,



GOD GRANT ME the SERENITY  
to ACCEPT the THINGS I CANNOT change,  
the COURAGE to change the THINGS I CAN,  
AND the WISDOM to KNOW the DIFFERENCE.



## June Worship Series:

### **"Behold, I am doing a new thing"** **Isaiah 43:19**

The end of a pandemic can be a fresh start, an opportunity for reset, growth and change. Let's discover how God is using this challenging time to bring a new beginning to our lives

**June 6** You changed my mourning into dancing: Unexpected gifts Psalm 30

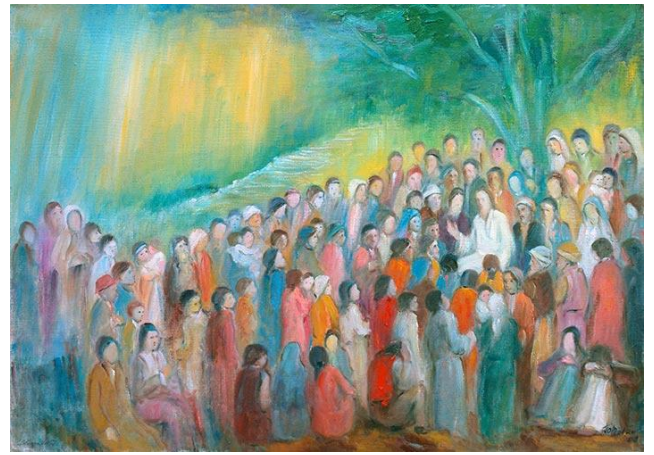
**June 13** (Recognition of Graduates)  
Suffering produces endurance and hope: The lessons we learned Romans 5:3-5, James 1:2-4

**June 20** (Father's Day) A friend loves at all times, even in time of adversity: those who loved supported you unconditionally - Proverbs 17:17 John 15:12-13

**June 27** All the believers were united: the power of one another Acts 2:42-47



*Bring dad to church! June 20<sup>th</sup>*



## July Worship Series: **Jesus' Greatest Talk**

Join us as we learn Jesus' secrets to living a good life. Movie clips will help us understand each theme.

**July 4** Lay speaker Bill Pardoe  
**"Love your Enemies"** Matthew 5:38-48  
**Remember the Titans**

**July 11** Communion  
**"First go and be reconciled to those who have something against you"** Matthew 5:23-24  
**Beauty and the Beast**

**July 18** **"Do Not Worry"** Matthew 6:25-34  
**The Wizard of Oz**

**July 25** **"Don't Judge Others"** Matt. 7:1-5  
**E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial**



## Thursday Night Zoom Bible Study

Please join us on Thursdays at 6:30 PM for a Zoom Bible study. We use the lectionary as our Scripture readings. The link and password for the Bible study is found in the Pastor's weekly email. Let Pastor Paola know if you need the information to join us!

*The following poem was written by Bonnie Stuempfig on 2/18/21 and was shared in worship on May 23:*

### SALEM CHURCH

God's blessing, God's doing,  
Something wonderful is brewing,  
Salem Church is getting a facelift,  
Praise the Lord for such a gift!

During a bleak morass of sadness  
That never wants to pass,  
To keep, locked up and lonely,  
The broken hearts that only  
Wish life's return to the past,  
Before the virus hit us fast,  
Our enemies celebrated,  
As no church congregated, yet  
Strip clubs were deemed safe,  
We felt trapped in a cave,  
But we had Salem Church  
That left us not in the lurch.

Service went on week to week,  
Scripture to our souls would speak  
Of keeping faith and staying strong,  
In Him we never will go wrong,  
YouTube and Zoom keep us in touch,  
And frequent calls that help so much,  
The prayer chain works, with healing,  
Quelling fears that we are feeling.

Pastor Paola is our source,  
Guiding us to stay the course,  
Our program of remodeling  
Has advanced without dawdling,  
The work progressed in perfect time,  
A labor of love so sublime.

After many months of missing  
Those we care about and wishing,  
That this lost and grieving heart –  
For too long we've been apart –  
Finds renewal in the mending,  
Our faith in God never ending,  
He fashioned His big plans,  
Long before they were our plans,

Put together the right folks  
To ensure our getting the votes,  
Impossible dreams were His  
That He planted in us with a kiss,  
Thank you, Lord, for this dream  
Coming true, thanks to the team,  
Working hard and dedicated,  
Each step climbed is celebrated,  
Toward the goal they all envision,  
Every part of this transition  
Will be cheered amid the smiles –  
Our response just like a child's –  
Pray we oldsters live long enough,  
Have time to love the new stuff!

P.S. 5/22/21

May 15, 1966, doors opened wide,  
Welcoming all to come inside  
To worship in this holy place,  
Through God's never-ending grace,  
Fifty-five years hence, we're here again,  
Let's celebrate and congregate, AMEN!

### *Announcing a special event...*



### Re-dedication of Salem's Sanctuary Sunday, August 8th 9:00 AM

Special guests will include Wisconsin Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, District Superintendent Forrest Wells, the remodeling General Contractor and Site Manager, members of the Building Team, and others



From our  
Children, Youth &  
Family Ministries  
Coordinator,  
Mary Jo Martin



**Congratulations all Graduates!** On June 13th during the worship service, we will recognize our Salem Graduates. Our high school graduates are: Anna Hobbins, Sydney Hernandez, Cole Nease, and Matthew Ulrich. Natalie Tesch will be graduating from the University of Wisconsin Madison. Please call the Salem office or Pastor Paola if we have missed any graduates.

**Welcome Back to Salem!** For the month of June and July. If you attend an in-person service, please look for children Bulletins and youth reflection sheet in the Narthex. Feel free to take.



**G.L.O.W.**  
“God Lights Our World”  
We are planning an  
outdoor evening family  
event at Salem in July!  
**July 17<sup>th</sup> 6-9 pm**  
**(Raindate July 24<sup>th</sup>)**

**Fun with GLOW sticks, games, and fire pit!** We'll meet on the North side of our building. We will be using New Perspective's fire pit, we will have food, games, and music. All are welcome. We encourage you to bring friends and family. Bring your own lawnchairs. More information to come.

John 1:1-15, John 8:12-19

Jesus is the Light of the World

**Our light comes from Jesus.** If we want to shine brightly in the dark, we have to put our faith in Jesus, the true light of the world. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, He fills our hearts with love that can shine for all the world to see.

## Trustees

While the building team's work is nearing completion, the Trustees are continuing to help in adapting specific storage needs to the new environment, and replacing fixtures that were removed for painting. The trustees now have an indoor storage closet for building materials and tools that is currently being organized. Six downspouts have been repaired. Three needed new connections to roof drains, while three more had to be replaced completely due to ice damage over the years. A thermostat in the sanctuary was malfunctioning and was replaced. Modification of a radiator in the narthex closet needs to be done when the boiler is shut down for the summer. Trustees will investigate contracting for a maintenance plan for existing boilers, and possibly for new heating and air conditioning equipment.

Trustees have approved a restoration grading contract for bringing areas of construction back to usable lawn space. Contract will be considered at the May Council meeting.

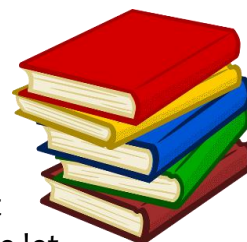
The first in-person service occurred Sunday, May 16, after the long pandemic shut down. Trustees designated socially distanced seating in the sanctuary, and ushered about 60 attendees to those seats.

At this time trustees will continue meeting virtually; maybe until early fall.



## MISSING!

The library is missing the first 25 books in the Guideposts' *Tearoom Mysteries* series. If you have taken them out, or if you know where they might be in a box somewhere, please let someone from the Library Committee know. Thank you.



--Carol, Gladys, Pat

## Wanted: Gently Used Garden Tools

The Trustees at Salem would like to encourage you to donate gently used garden tools to be used here on our grounds. The new shed is ready to be organized, and your donation would help us stock up with much needed tools. All outdoor tools are welcome and anything in excess will be donated. Please bring your tools to church by June 13. You can drop them off in the bell tower just outside the east door.



### **A note from the secretary (Amy)...**

I will be having lumbar fusion surgery on my lower back on June 9. This will take a few weeks of recuperation, but I am hoping to be back in the church office by the end of June at least for a few hours a week. Thank you, Pat Bohning, for filling in as needed while I am healing! She will be checking the church email on a regular basis. Thank you for your patience during this time.

-Amy

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY 100<sup>TH</sup>

**Help us celebrate  
Harriet Marks'  
100<sup>th</sup> birthday!  
Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup>!!**



Harriet is turning 100 on Monday June 7th!

We want to celebrate her in a way she will

appreciate, so we are inviting everyone to send her a birthday card (2501 Summit Ave. #213, Waukesha, WI 53188). If you feel called to make a donation to church in honor of Harriet, please mark your check or envelope with "Harriet Marks' birthday". We are planning to use the donations for our new landscaping, including planting a tree in her honor. And by the way... **Keep this all a secret!!**

## CAR-SIDE VIEW OF FOOD PANTRY SERVICES

A VIRTUAL EVENT UPDATING OUR FRIENDS ON THE PAST YEAR AND LOOKING FORWARD

THURSDAY JUNE 3, 7:00 PM



### **Waukesha Food Pantry Virtual Event**

The FOOD Pantry Serving Waukesha County presents their first virtual experience! Please join them for a virtual view of current car-side services at The FOOD Pantry and to hear a special announcement for the future. This virtual event will take place June 3, 7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Since it is a virtual event, you get to enjoy it from the comfort of your home. There is no cost to view this event. Register now at <https://waukeshafoodpantry.networkforgood.com/events/30100-car-side-view-of-food-pantry-services>

## Coming this summer to Salem...

Our **Mujilia Falls fund-raiser** will be held Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> to 15. To kick off the project, we hope to have our missionary, Temba, show us around Salem House LIVE! This is the dormitory which was erected in our honor after your generous contributions last year. If the pandemic numbers keep going down, we also hope to have our annual "pie sale" on the 15<sup>th</sup>. This year we will probably be "selling" individual containers of pie slices for your donation.



*Dormitory "Salem House" at Mujila Falls, Zambia*



On Sunday,  
May 23, Kurt  
Guenther  
presented team  
jerseys to  
Marlys Tesch  
(Co-Sponsor of  
the Salem  
Church 50+

Softball team), Dick Tesch and Pastor Paola  
Benecchi. You are invited to come watch the  
Salem Senior Softball team on Tuesday mornings  
at the New Berlin VFW at 17980 Beloit Road in  
New Berlin. Go Salem Church Team!

## Happy Birthday!

### June

- 7 Harriet Marks
- 11 Jim Tonz
- 12 Gloria Rongstad
- 13 Anna Hobbins
- 15 Mary Fischer
- 19 Giovanni Hobbins
- 24 Patrick Tonz

### July

- 1 Bob Teschner
- 1 Lenny Hernandez
- 1 Sue Dick
- 2 Kendra Fischer
- 5 Mary Jo Martin
- 7 Laurie Buxengard
- 9 Frank Kosednar
- 11 Janet Lamb
- 14 Robert Tomaszczak
- 17 Tina Tonz
- 17 Ken Bringa
- 21 Brooke Nease
- 26 Katie Martin
- 27 Kermit Bohning
- 27 Judy Schimpf
- 28 Amy Manns
- 31 Betta Hobbins
- 31 Alison Campbell
- 31 Alexis Tonz

## Lectionary Readings

### June 6

1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15) 16-20 (11:14-15)  
Psalm 138:1-8  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Gospel Mark 3:20-35

### June 13

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13  
Psalm 20  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17  
Gospel Mark 4:26-34

### June 20

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49  
Psalm 9:9-20  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Gospel Mark 4:35-41

### June 27

Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
Gospel Mark 5:21-43

### July 4 Trinity Sunday

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Gospel Mark 6:1-13

### July 11

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel Mark 6:14-29

### July 18

2 Samuel 7:1-14a  
Psalm 89:20-37  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Gospel Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

### July 25

2 Samuel 11:1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
Gospel John 6:1-21