

# Salem United Methodist Church

## March 2022



### *From Ashes to Joy: a Lenten Journey*

*To all who mourn,  
God will transform ashes into a crown of beauty,  
a joyous blessing instead of mourning,  
festive praise instead of despair. (Isaiah 61:3)*

### *Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

I hope you can join me at Salem this Lent for a special journey toward the joy of the New Life of Easter. We will start on Wednesday, March 2, with a zoom service at 6:30 pm. During the service, we will impose ashes in a form of a cross on our forehead. That is the sign of our inadequacy, mortality, our struggles, our burdens and a symbol of repentance. Here is the link to the Ash Wednesday Service on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81407849961?pwd=SmlvM01rUERoVmxUd3JTWGNVMFFnUT09>

Lent is an ancient Christian tradition established in the first century. There are 40 days in Lent (a number filled with struggle and yet hope in the Scriptures). Many believe Lent is about giving something up, depravation. But God is not a God of depravation. Lent is about receiving more, and the reason why we fast or take away something during Lent is because our life gets so cluttered with so much stuff. This keeps us from having space for God. Lent is actually about *more* not less. How can I have more God, more love, and more service toward others during Lent? That is the question for you and me. What are the parts of my life that keep me from having more?

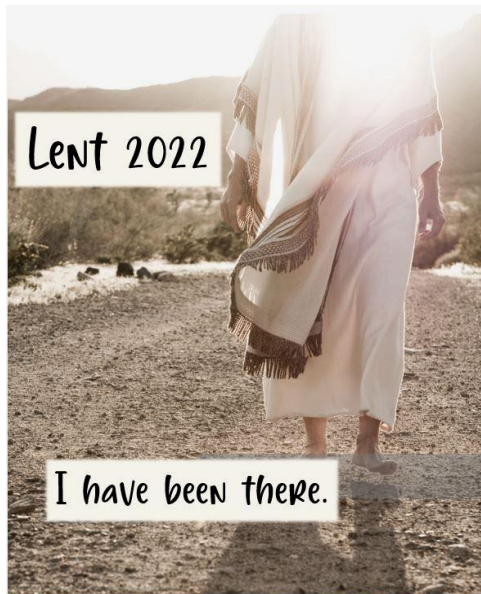
Every Sunday during Lent, we will travel with Jesus to a different place, a spiritually symbolic place, where we can meet God in a new and powerful way. After the service we will come closer to the cross by meeting those who were there and whom life has been transformed.

In the end of the journey, the ashes will be transformed into joy.  
We will celebrate the new beginning of Easter.

Please pass it on. So many people out there are in need of more God. Invite a friend or family member to come to church with you.

Have a blessed Lent,  
Pastor Paola

# † Worship Opportunities †



Through his ministry Jesus traveled to highly spiritually symbolic places. Let's journey with Jesus, discovering these life-changing places that will deeply influence our spiritual life.

**March 2** Ash Wednesday 6:30 PM

**March 6** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent - **The Desert**  
(Communion Sunday) Luke 4:1-13

**March 13** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent - **The Water**  
Luke 5:1-11. Lay speaker Bill Pardoe

**March 20** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent - **The Mountain**  
Luke 9:28-36

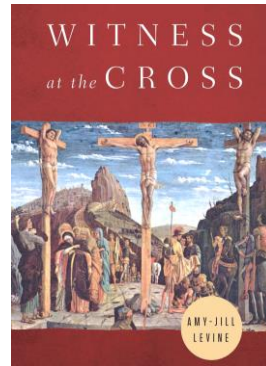
**March 27** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent - **The Temple**  
Luke 19:45-48

**April 3** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent - **The Garden**  
(Communion Sunday) Luke 22:39-46

**April 10** Palm Sunday - **The City of Jerusalem**  
Luke 19:28-44

**April 15** Good Friday 7 PM Tenebrae Service

**April 17 EASTER - He is not Here!**  
(Communion) Luke 24:1-12



**New Lent Study Every  
Sunday  
10:30 AM  
March 6 -April 10**

Join us during Lent as we experience Holy Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die.

The story of Jesus' death is not something we just read...we think about it and we experience it; we hear the taunts of the soldiers, the priests, and the passersby even as we hear the famous "seven last words" from the cross.

The witnesses at the cross a story to tell us: Jews and Romans, friends and strangers, the powerful and the powerless, the hopeful and the despairing.

If you have not ordered a book, no worries! You can still participate in the study and discussions without reading the book. The class will be held at 10:15 AM in the conference room.

## **Worship Series: Oh WOW!!**

As we enter into the Easter season and new beginnings, let us come together in worship,

and give praise to God with word, music, prayer, wonder and gratitude.



**April 24 Give Praise** - Psalm 105:1-5

**May 1 Come and See** - Psalm 66:1-9  
Communion

**May 8 Shout with Joy**  
Mother's Day - Praisefest - Psalm 100



### **Outreach Hope Center Meal**

Salem is scheduled to serve the evening meal at the Hope Center on Friday, March 11. (This will be our only

opportunity this year.) We need the following help: 6-8 servers, 8 dozen cookies, 10 gallons of milk (please sign up on the kiosk). Plan to arrive at 5:00 pm to help serve the meal and beverages. After the meal we will wash tables in the dining room and sweep the floor. We should be finished shortly after 6:30 pm. What an easy way to bring hope to others!

### **Waukesha Overflow Shelter**

The Waukesha Overflow Shelter is now open. This shelter has the ability to handle families as well as singles. More information can be found on the



Housing Action Coalition page:

<https://www.waukeshacoc.org/winter-overflow-shelter>

They are in need of new bedding, personal hygiene items and grab and go food items. For ease of shopping and delivery, an wishlist has been created at Amazon. The wishlist includes many items including sheets, towels, diapers, snack items, cleaning supplies, soap, deodorant, etc. Here is a direct link to their wishlist: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

If you join AmazonSmile, you can then designate a charity and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to that charity! Thanks again for the tremendous support you have shown to our community!

### **From the Finance Team**

#### **Church Pledge Payment Options**

When you are on vacation or “wintering” in another state, writing and mailing checks can be a challenge. Or perhaps you are just tired of writing checks, or most of your other bills are paid via online banking at your bank? An option to consider is to contact your bank and establish a regular automatic pledge payment sent from your checking account to Salem. This may be a check generated by your bank and sent to Salem, or may be an electronic ACH payment. If you want more information on this process contact Kermit Bohning.

#### **Best Kept Secret at Salem?**

Did you know that Salem has an OPERATIONS ENDOWMENT fund invested with the Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation? The purpose is to receive contributions/gifts from our congregation or friends to provide addition support for Salem’s annual operations budget each year. Contributions remain in the account and earn interest each year. Salem can receive a portion of annual interest earnings each year, paid annually or monthly. This is what occurs from our Parsonage Sale Trust Fund that provides us with monthly payments that help support some of our Pastor’s housing allowance. If you would like more information about supporting the OPERATIONS ENDOWMENT fund, contact Gary Wollenzien.



## It's Time For Pie Again!!



Last year we had a "no pie" fundraiser for the **Mujila Falls Agriculture Center** and raised enough money to have a small dormitory built for students and visitors. Donations totaled \$4,238! The Outreach Committee is once again looking forward to Palm Sunday, April 10th, and our annual **Pie Day**. When you give a free will donation, you may enjoy a slice of pie made by Outreach Committee members. Funds raised from the pie sale will go toward a project at the Falls. Temba will let us know shortly what his high priority needs are. Since we, like other churches in the conference, help support Temba's salary, our Easter offering will go specifically towards his salary.



### Children's Handbells

We are still trying to get practice set up for this month. Due to unforeseen illnesses, we have not been able to practice and perform. More information to come.

### Sunday School

March 6 - No Sunday School, Communion  
March 13, 20, 27 - Lent-themed Sunday School classes

## Chapel Service at New Perspective

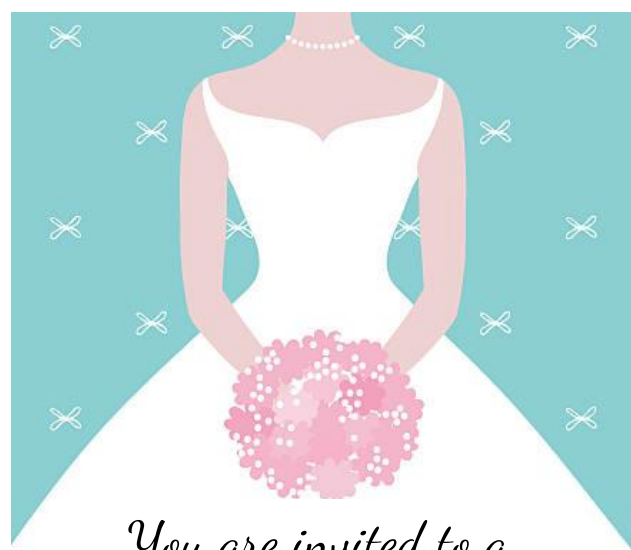
**Worship with our neighbors!**

**Wednesday, March 16, at 11 AM**

Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Communion will be served. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in at the front desk.



Have you always wanted to try a Bible Study? Why not join us on **Thursday nights for Salem's Zoom Bible Study?** We meet at 6:30 PM. If you would like to join us, please let Pastor Paola know and she can send you the Zoom link.



## *You are invited to a Bridal Shower for Betta*

The Salem Nurture Team is hosting a bridal shower for Pastor Paola's daughter Betta

Sunday, March 20 at 1:30 pm  
Salem's Fellowship Hall

RSVP by March 13 to Sandy Pardoe  
(414)520-5217

Wedding Registry:

[www.zola.com/registry/bettaandryan](http://www.zola.com/registry/bettaandryan)

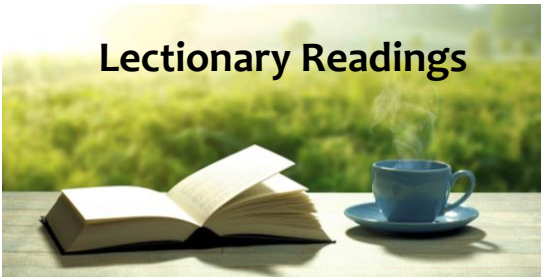
Betta and Ryan will be married at Salem on May 29

## Prayer Concerns

### March Birthdays

March 9	Mary Watt
11	Sharon Link
12	Jim Seegers
20	Perla Agpoon
30	Sandy Pardoe
31	Cathy McGrath

### Lectionary Readings



#### March 6

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

#### March 13

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

#### March 20

Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

#### March 27

Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

- Prayers for Caryn and Tyler Adair's 10-year old nephew who is battling leukemia
- Prayers of healing for Bill Pardoe after oral surgery
- Prayers for Jeff and Marsha Everson's daughter-in-law's father (Tom) as he walks toward the last few days of his life on earth
- Aaron Buxengard's friend Logan and her family are recovering from a house fire.
- Continued prayers for Sandy Pardoe's sister Bonnie who is recuperating from a very invasive surgery.
- Rhena Knourek moved to a senior living community this past week. Prayers for a smooth transition for her.

#### Prayer for the Russian-Ukraine Conflict

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*-Romans 8:38-39*

Dear Salem,

As horrific images and news of war are coming today from Ukraine, please join me in prayer...

Holy and Gracious God,

Today we pray for peace in Ukraine.

We pray for the people of Ukraine for their country and their leaders. Walk with them in this devastating time.

We pray for the people of Russia for their country and their leaders. Please bring peace in their hearts.

We pray for those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in its fullness.

We pray those who chose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn swords into ploughshares and to seek peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Jesus.

We ask this in the name of your blessed Son Jesus Christ. Lord have Mercy, AMEN.