

Salem United Methodist Church

July 2022

Thoughts from Pastor Paola...

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:25; 33

BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM
of God,
AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS;
AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE
ADDED UNTO YOU.
MATTHEW 6:33

As we make plans for the summer and the near future, I am sure many of you, just like me, are getting anxious for our personal financial situation as well as for the economy of our country. In case anyone needs a reminder: the cost of gas, food, energy and basic goods have been skyrocketing as the inflation is growing; average earnings have been dropping; 401K and funds have been going down.....Not a pretty picture. This happens periodically to the economy. Nevertheless, the memory of the 2018 crash is still very vivid and the fear of what may happen again is justifiable.

My mind is going to the words of Jesus in the Sermon of the Mountain: *Do not worry, but seek first God's Kingdom and all things will be given to you.*

First of all it is a reminder that I am not in charge, God is. My worrying only steals life and peace from me. He will take care of us. Fear is not going to control my life. That doesn't mean we live in denial of reality and sweep everything under the rug. We are given the ability to make smart choices for ourselves and our loved ones which may include controlling our spending, our waste and the need for immediate gratification. It also includes simplifying and learning how to prioritize. This is actually an awesome way to make changes that need to be made anyway.

Second of all, it is the opportunity to use our resources for what is lasting and eternal, not just for things that are here now and will be gone soon. Of course we need to meet our everyday expenses and still do fun things. Nevertheless this summer we have the opportunity to seek first the Kingdom of God as we make our financial choices. And the key word here is GENEROSITY. A common mistake in time of financial anxiety is stopping or decreasing our giving. When we do that, we give in to anxiety and fear which only creates more fear and anxiety. Generosity instead is God's way, it is the way of love, the way of the Kingdom. Generosity leads us to live in God's economy where it is more blessed to give than receive, and in so doing, we actually receive surprisingly more than we could ever expect.

This summer I will "seek first the Kingdom". I am not giving in to fear, but instead I will live in God's economy. Among other things I will increase my weekly giving to Salem, opening myself to the surprising blessings God has in store for me!

I hope you can join me.

Blessings,
Pastor Paola



You've Got a Friend in Me

Worship Series
Continues through July 10

Sunday, July 3 - Communion

The power of intergenerational friendships -

Ruth and Naomi

Ruth 1:16-17, Clips from the movie *UP*

Sunday July 10

What a friend we have in Jesus - John 15:8-17

Clips from the movie *ET*

Worship Series:

The Fruitful Life

Sunday July 17th

Cultivating love, joy and
peace

Sunday July 24th

Growing patience,
kindness and generosity

Sunday July 31st

Nurturing faithfulness, gentleness and self-
control



Gardening Our Souls Bible Study

Sundays after worship, July 17, 24, 31

We learn a lot from gardening how to care for our soul, and summer is a perfect time for it. Pastor Paola will be teaching a 3-session Sunday School class on this subject. The study will be based on the book, **Like a Garden: A Biblical Spirituality of Growth**. You do not need to purchase the book, but you can find it on Amazon (\$20). Your interest in gardening will be part of our discussions. This Bible Study goes along with the Worship Theme at the same time: The Fruitful Life. Hope you can join us. Please sign up on the poster in the narthex.

Multi-Generational Event

"Taste and see that the LORD is good"

Psalms 34:8



Sunday, July 31

5:00 – 7:00 PM

Salem will be hosting a multigenerational event with New Perspective. All are invited! Please bring a dish to pass such as pasta salads, salads of any kind, and fruit. We will provide banana splits for dessert. Activities include blindfolded smell and taste test contest, scavenger hunt get-to-know-you, fruit relays, and crafts. Hope to see everyone there.

Stand Alone Sunday: August 7

"Why? Why? Why?"

Lay Speaker, Bill Pardoe

August Worship Series:



Most of Jesus' greatest moments and teachings take place in the outdoors. As summer starts to wrap up, let's join Jesus and the disciples in four great adventures in the great outdoors from the Gospel of Luke.

August 14 **Fishing with Jesus** - Luke 5:1-11

August 21 **Boating with Jesus** - Luke 8:22-25

August 28 **Picnicking with Jesus** - Luke 9:10-17

September 4 **Hiking with Jesus** - Luke 24:13-35
(Communion Sunday)



Chapel Service *Next Door*

Wednesday, July 20, 11:00 – 11:30 AM

At New Perspective

Come worship with our neighbors! Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3rd floor. Communion will be served. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check in at the front desk. Everybody is welcome!



The Thursday night Bible study will resume on July 7th! We meet at 6:30 PM. We hope you can join us.

Social Ministry at New Perspective!

BINGO!!

Look up for opportunities coming up to lead Bingo at New Perspective Memory care, Fridays at 2 PM. We will provide snacks and prizes (jewelry, candies and stuffed animals) More details will be available soon.



Undie Sunday – September 4-25

Just a reminder that Undie Sunday is coming up. Have you purchased any underwear to donate to the Hope Center yet? Last year Salem contributed 651 pairs of underwear, 98 pairs of socks and 10 t-shirts for a total of 759 items between items donated and monetary donations. Can we beat these last totals? Yes, we can! Please put new underwear in the basket or designate checks for Undie Sunday made out to Salem. With your support, we can help our community with this very basic need. Thank you! The Outreach Team



Trustees Report

A big THANK YOU to the Salem brothers and sisters who came to help with the Saturday morning work event. Without the help of Maggi Bringa, Julie Vang, Franklin Hughes, Caryn Adair, Bill Hauenstine, Cathy & Doug McGrath, Gary Rongstad, Rob Roszkowski, Jim and Sharon Seegers, Paul and Bonnie Wojcik and Harriet Young (who came earlier in the week to take care of the Peace Garden), we would not have been able to get as much done. Thank you again for your time and service. There are several areas outside that still need to be attended to. Please see Rob Roszkowski or Bonnie Wojcik if you would like to do this on your own.



The Trustees are not going to meet in July or August, but rest assured if a problem arises, we will take care of it.

The handicap sign that is missing will soon be repaired and put in the appropriate spot. It may already been done by the time of this Tidings edition.

We wish you and your families a safe, enjoyable summer and hope to see you all at church.



We are hiring!

Office Administrator/Secretary

12 hours/week

Please Email Pastor Paola:

Pastor@SalemOnTheHill.org

What???
No
Refreshments?!



We certainly don't want this to happen! Please sign up on the coffee bar in the narthex to provide refreshments for after worship!

Coffee is already provided. Simple is fine. If you want to provide but don't want to bake or shop, please see Marlys Tesch. She will be happy to pick up some refreshments for you if you give her a donation. Thanks!



July 1	Bob Teschner
1	Lenny Hernandez
1	Sue Dick
5	Mary Jo Martin
7	Laurie Buxengard
11	Janet Lamb
13	Franklin Hughes
14	Robert Tomaszak
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

July 3

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30:1-12
Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 10

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82:1-8
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24

Reading Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85:1-13
Reading Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

July 31

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21