

# Salem United Methodist Church

## November 2023



*Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

**Jesus said: *Freely you have received; freely give. Matthew 10:8b***

When my kids were little, I would constantly be telling them after receiving anything: *What should you say to...?* I am sure you did the same. So they would automatically say "Thank you". Most of the time they wouldn't even be aware of what they would say, nevertheless it was a first step in the process of learning gratitude.

Then one day, years later, something great happened: my kids started telling me how they went out of their way to help others, to bring a meal, to care for someone sick, to help someone...

That day I felt my soul filled with pride. That day they entered into the circle of gratitude by learning one of the greatest truths: Love doesn't charge, it is given freely.

This is a revolutionary idea that Jesus brought into the world. Just like hope, forgiveness and humility. They have become desired and honorable virtues through Jesus who supremely manifested them on the cross. Before Jesus they were not virtues, they were actually considered a flaw, a characteristic of the losers.

The same is for gratitude. At Jesus's time everything was based on obligation: somebody who had more would give a gift to someone in need. The receiver from that moment on, was obligated toward the giver. The gift always came with strings attached. The receiver would need to give back service, praise, and honor to the benefactor. So that the power of the benefactor would keep growing.

Jesus turns the idea of gratitude around. God is the giver of all, God is concerned about everyone particularly of the poor, the sick, the desperate and the lonely. God made us in His image and the best way to show gratitude to God is to care for those who suffer and are in need. So that the circle of generosity keeps on growing. God gives freely to us, we give freely to others creating more generosity. When I give freely, Jesus is present. This is the plan of creation: a growing project of generosity.

I would like to invite you all during this Thanksgiving season to show your gratitude to God by freely giving as freely as you received. I believe God's heart as a good Father, will be filled with pride as you fully enter into the growing circle of gratitude.

Let say thanks to God with our generosity.

Blessings,  
Pastor Paola



**Standalone Sun, Nov 5**  
**All Saints Day - Communion**  
 Join us for a special service  
 of remembrance of all the  
 loved ones are gone back  
 to the father.

**Please invite families and friends who  
 have lost a dear one.**



Revenge and resentment are powerful forces in  
 our world and in our soul. Jesus said that there is  
 a more powerful force: forgiveness  
 Forgive doesn't mean forget. It means to choose  
 the way of love over the way of hate.

**Sunday November 12**

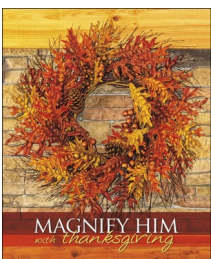
**"Forgiveness and Its Alternative"**

*Love your enemies and pray for those who  
 persecute you – Matthew 5:43-45*

**Sunday November 19**

**"Two-way Street"**

*And forgive us our debts, as we also have  
 forgiven our debtors - Matthew 6:12;14-15*

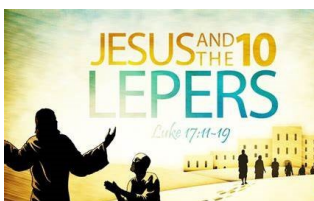


**Special Thanksgiving Eve  
 Service at Salem**

**Wed Nov 22nd @ 7PM**

**with First UMC West Allis**

This year we will host Thanksgiving Eve service, a  
 wonderful way to enter in true spirit on  
 Thanksgiving. Our friends from West Allis will join  
 us. We are planning to have combined choirs.



**Sunday, Nov 26th**  
 Thanksgiving Sunday  
 Pastor Pete Peterson  
**Lepers No. 10**

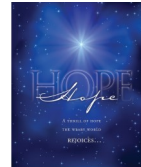
10 were healed physically but only one found  
 healing for his soul.

**Advent 2023**

*For unto us a  
 child is born*

Isaiah 9:6

Through the words of the prophet Isaiah let us  
 receive in our heart the Baby who brings  
 everlasting life and light in our lives.



**Dec 3rd First Sunday in Advent**

Communion

**Coming of Hope: *Everlasting Father***

Isaiah 9:1-7; Isaiah 7:14



**Dec 10th Second Sunday in Advent**

**Coming of Peace: *Prince of Peace***

Children's Program

Collection of Toys/Visit from Santa



**Dec 17 Third Sunday in Advent**

**Coming of Joy:**

***Wonderful Counselor***

Isaiah 9:1-7; Isaiah 11:1-5



**Dec 24 9:00 am**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Coming of Love: *Mighty God***

Isaiah 9:1-7; Isaiah 40:9-11

***Special service filled with Christmas Carols***

**Dec 24 4:00 pm Christmas Eve**

**Candle Lighting**

**Coming of Christ: *For you He Came***

Luke 2:1-20

*We wish you and your family a  
 very Merry Christmas!*



**Sunday, Dec 31st New Year's Eve**



Upcoming Events: Join the FUN!!!



Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>

2 pm - 4 pm

We will be joined by the youth group of 1st UMC in West Allis. Pizza, lots of games, activities and time to be grateful.

WE'RE ROUNDING UP THE Youth Group GANG!

FOR A MERRY LITTLE  
**CHRISTMAS SLEEPOVER**

SATURDAY, DEC 9TH @ 7PM -  
SUNDAY, DEC 10TH @ 10 AM

SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
541 HWY 59  
WAUKESHA, WI 53186



Please mark you calendars. On **Dec 10th**, the Children and Youth will help with our Worship Service and enjoy a visit from Santa.



**Hanging  
of the  
Greens**

Join us on  
Sat, Dec 4TH at 9:00 AM  
Come and decorate the church together!



Throughout Advent, we are in need of people to sign up to read the liturgy and light the Advent Wreath during worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for Christmas. Sign up with your family or with some of your friends.

**Sign Up in The Happenings Center in November**

**Annual Christmas Party  
& Free Concert**  
**December 10TH, 4 PM**

**Everyone is invited...**

The Civic Broadway Singers will be singing at Salem for our annual Christmas Party, hosted by the United Methodist Women in Faith. This free concert includes festive songs of the season both old and new. Following the concert join us for light refreshments and sweet treats.

**You won't want to miss this great way to start the holiday season!**

Questions? Call Gloria Rongstad  
(262) 844-3309

*Poinsettia*  
**ORDERS**

Order forms for Christmas Poinsettias will be available in the bulletin from 11/19 - 12/3. Simply put in the offering plate. They may be purchased to acknowledge someone, either in honor or in memory. You may take your plant home following the Christmas Eve service. Specific details to follow.

# Christmas Giving at Salem

## November 12<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup>

As leaves are turning colors and falling to the ground, it's that time of year to start thinking of raking leaves, **and** of Christmas at Salem! Salem's Outreach Ministry is again supporting two organizations for Christmas giving, the Christmas Clearing Council and ERAs Senior network, to include both the young and seniors alike!

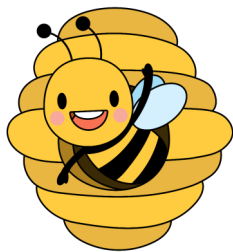


This year we will be holding a toy drive for the **Christmas Clearing Council**, and are asking you to place your unwrapped toy or book in the toy barrel located in the narthex. \$15 Target gift cards for older children are welcomed as well. Mark your calendar for December 10<sup>th</sup> as the youth will present these items to be blessed during Worship. **Santa will be in attendance!**

For **ERAs Senior network**, we will collect stamps and gift cards to help fill the Holiday packages for more than 400 low-income older adults and adults with disabilities. A basket to receive these will be found near the Outreach bulletin board once the collection begins. They are asking for books of Forever stamps, and \$10 Walmart and \$10 Pick 'n Save gift cards.



***Help Us Help Them Celebrate the Season of Joy! Thank you!***



### ***Honey Sale...***

A honey sale is coming in November!  
Profits will benefit the Food Pantry.

Local and raw (not pasteurized)  
Perfect timing for holiday gifting.

Sign Up is available in  
The Happenings Center!



**The FOOD  
Pantry**  
SERVING WAUKESHA COUNTY



**The FOOD  
Pantry**  
SERVING WAUKESHA COUNTY

## **CONTINUED NEED**

Please consider the Food Pantry with any donation.  
They are very low at this time.

**Please bring the following to church**  
and place in the Pantry basket:

Baby wipes, Diapers/Pull Ups, especially larger sizes (Open packages are accepted), Canned fruits and veggies, Cereals, Personal hygiene items (soap, shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent, toilet paper)

If preferred, you may give a monetary donation. Use the pew envelope and label it **FOOD PANTRY**. Checks can be made to Salem UMC with "Food Pantry" in the memo line.



*Upcoming opportunities to bless Healing Hearts!*



**Windy Hill Fundraising Music Concert**  
to benefit Healing Hearts  
**Salem United Methodist Church**

The Windy Hill Handbells and a **NEW** group the Windy Hill Recorder Consort both directed by Emeritus Professor of Music Dr. Nancy L. Van Brunt as well as The Windy Hill Brass led by Emeritus Professor Craig W. Hurst, will present a free concert of a variety of music that is sure to please the ear!!!

Salem's very own...Brenda Lindsay and Katie Martin are in the Handbell Choir and Paul and Carol Becher are in the Recorder Consort. Flyers to share are in The Happenings Center. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Healing Hearts!

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**Volunteer Opportunity**  
**Mon, Nov 6th 5:00 - 6:30 pm**



We have the opportunity to serve a meal to kids, families, and volunteers at *Healing Hearts* at First UMC Waukesha. This is a great opportunity for **ALL** ages to volunteer a few hours of your time or contribute to the meal.

Sign up to serve and/or bring food!

**Sign Up at the Happenings Center!**  
**Thank you!**



heartfelt  
thanks!



A heartfelt thanks to everyone who has donated snacks for the children at Hadfield School. Many snacks have already been delivered.



Our grant money allowed us to purchase 8 pairs of snow pants, 16 pairs of sweat pants, and 11 pairs of waterproof mittens.

**Snack Collection**



Please continue to place snack items in the basket at the Happenings Center.



To All Who Donated to  
Undie Sunday - you gave dignity to many needy  
people going into our Wisconsin winter!!

**694 Items Total**



On **Sunday, Nov 5th**  
roll back all of your  
clocks by one hour,  
sleep an extra hour  
and come to  
church refreshed!

## Children's CHURCH

Join us every Sunday for Children's Time and  
Sunday School Classes.



If you enjoy singing, then you are just the person  
to come and sing in the choir. In November we  
will be practicing on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:20 pm  
and November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:20 pm. We will sing on  
Nov. 5, (practice at 830 am before service, Nov 22  
for the Thanksgiving joint worship (6:15pm  
practice before the service) and then for morning  
worship on Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, with practice at 830 before  
the service.

Come and have fun and fellowship, we would  
love to have you! If you have any questions,  
please contact Rev. Dr. Michelle Oberwise Lacock  
at 630-336-2317.



Please join us for Handbell Rehearsal every  
Wednesday night. Handbells meet at 6:30 pm



## Chapel Service Next Door

**November 15th**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Hymn Sing at 10:30 am**

Come worship with our neighbors at New  
Perspective! 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.

**Future services: Dec 20th & Jan 17th**

## A Message from the Trustees



We would like to remind everyone the church  
has an alarm system during the times the  
church is not in major use. If you are coming to  
church at an odd time, please check with one  
of our trustees (listed below)  
for a time or if you need to be let in.

**Rob Roszkowski, Sharon Seegers, Caryn Adair,  
Doug McGrath, Dave Pauly, or Patrick Rogers**

We also would like to mention that in the event  
of an emergency, the church has an adult and  
child defibrillator.

Finally, we received all the chair racks and we  
are in the process of putting them together and  
getting rid of the big unit in the back. By doing  
this we hope this will prevent more damage to  
our floors and ceiling.

Jim Seegers was hoping to get the machine and  
more dirt to finish the sidewalks and trenches.  
However, the weather is just too iffy. So, we are  
hoping to try to complete it in Spring. We will  
need help this Spring with raking and seeding,  
so watch for a sign-up in the Spring.

Thank you Dave Pauly for fixing the  
leak in the back.

## Volunteers Needed



We have a need for Greeters and Fellowship Snacks for the months of November and December. Please check out the sign up for fellowship refreshments at the snack counter and the greeter sign up at the Happenings Center.

**Thank you!!!!**



## Looking for a way to **SERVE?**

- Would you like to learn how to run the AV equipment, film our Sunday Services, edit the film and post on YouTube?
- Create PowerPoint presentations for Worship Service?
- Convert short films in a non online format and edit as needed?



If interested,  
please contact Bill Pardoe  
(414) 520-3117 or BillPardoe1@gmail.com



## SALEM ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

**Tuesday, November 21st at 7 PM**

We hope you can join us Tuesday, Nov 21st from 7 to 8 pm for our annual church conference. During the conference we will approve the 2024 leadership nominations and budget. Pastor Sam Royappa from First United Methodist Church in West Allis will preside our conference.



### JOIN OUR NEW MINISTRY GROUP

Think about the last time someone did something nice for you, just because. It probably put a smile on your face. While we may be busy in our day, there is a very deserving group who'd appreciate an act of kindness: seniors. It's all about finding a moment to make a difference in another person's life. The Nurture Team invites you to brighten a seniors day through a random act of kindness. "Send a senior a card" just to let them know you are thinking about them. There will be a box at the happening center for you to drop off your kindness cards. We will deliver them for you. No postage necessary. Here are a few simple rules to follow when making out your cards.

1. Cards must be legible and hand written.
2. Exclude the date.
3. Embrace creativity!
4. Be kind and thoughtful.
5. Sign your card with a first name only.

And last on the outside of the envelope be specific, as to what is inside. For example, Happy Birthday, or Thinking of you, or Merry Christmas. These are a one way card exchange, you will not receive a card back. Receiving nothing in return is part of the beauty of your act of kindness, and the recipients aren't burdened by feeling obligated or unable to respond.

*Thank you for your help in making a difference in someone's day.*



- The Fongs asked for prayers for their friends: Colin and Jess had a miscarriage. Jonathan and his family who live in Tel Aviv are trying to get to safety. Michael lost his sister and his dad has dementia.
- Debbi Oswalt asks for prayer for her brother Ed who has an infection and is starting to recover.
- Please be praying for Bob and Bonnie Stuempfig's friend Judy Warner and her family. They are in desperate need of prayers as her cancer is spreading and chemo has been stopped.
- Please continue pray for the people and government of Israel-Gaza.
- Please pray for Marsha Everson's mom and continue to pray for Jeff Everson's mother. They are experiencing some health issues.
- Please pray for Leah and Brandon Fong who are preparing for the arrival of their baby.
- Please pray for Corporate New Perspective as they interview persons to fill the positions of Executive Director, Sales Director, and Life Management Director.
- Please pray for healing for Anita from New Perspective. She had a fall.
- Praise for everyone who supported the Food Pantry by buying honey last year.
- Praise from Sue Yont for all the prayers and cards during her recovery.



- 4 Steven Stachowicz
- 7 Bill Hauenstine
- 8 Benjamin VanDusen
- 13 Elliot Agpoon
- 13 Karla Henry
- 13 Rich Manns
- 14 Joan Callen
- 15 Hannah Agpoon
- 16 Aaron Buxengard
- 16 Rob Roszkowski
- 20 Bill Pardoe
- 20 Jim Prescott
- 21 Ruth Teschner
- 24 Margaret Wogaman
- 26 Aimee Agpoon
- 27 Dale Henry
- 27 Sherrie Kellogg

## LECTIONARY READINGS - November



### **November 5**

Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

### **November 12**

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78:1-7  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

### **November 19**

Judges 4:1-7  
Psalm 123  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Matthew 25:14-30

### **November 26**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-34  
Psalm 100  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46