

## Salem UMC October 2025

### Thoughts from Pastor Paola...

I will forever remember Karen from Thomassique, Haiti. She had absolutely nothing: no house, no income, no job. Nevertheless, when I was there, she insisted on purchasing and preparing for me the best chicken and soup I ever had in my life (see picture). She was honored to be able to do that for me and made it very clear I was not going to strip her of that privilege by trying to pay for that meal. Karen changed my heart and my life forever.



We all live with a mindset. Either a mindset of plenty or a mindset of scarcity. This has immense implications for our lives. The plenty mindset is the one that, even in the midst of unknown and scarcity, makes us feel confident and hopeful that things will turn out ok. We feel we have enough and are more open to delay gratification. The scarcity mindset is the one that, independent of actual wealth, makes us feel that the world is a dangerous place where we cannot rely on anyone or anything. It sends us into a competitive survival mode and leads us to short-term gain over long-term gain.

#### What is your mindset?

Interestingly enough, all of us living in a society with abundant resources operate with a scarcity mindset: *I am anxious and worried, I don't have enough, I cannot share or be generous, what will my future look like??* .... As a result, even in the midst of plenty, we feel impoverished, discontent, and unhappy. On the other side, we often witness people who have a plenty mindset amidst scarcity. Clearly the feeling of plenty has nothing to do with material possessions. These people receive the plenty mindset from human connections, meaningful life and deep generosity.

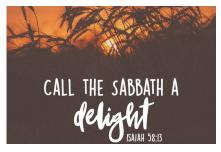
The scriptures invite us to live day by day with a mindset of plenty. Our God is a God of abundance. He is a generous God. During this month, we will learn how to live with a mindset of plenty. We will be invited to discover how generosity brings us the gift of satisfaction, contentment, peace, and joy, not just to us but to all who are close to us. It will be a changing time if we let God work in us.

Join us this month for the study of the book "Enough" on Thursday or Sunday (see details on page 3). Don't miss worship every Sunday for a witness and a message about the joy that generosity brings in our lives. Consider how you can live with a plenty mindset by stepping up your financial commitment to Salem for the next year.



And above all, start by being generous today with your time, your talents, your love, and your money. God is not a God of scarcity.

Blessings, Pastor Paola



Sunday, September 28
Pastor Paola
Stories from my vacation:

Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 58:13-14

Sabbath, slow down and rest



#### **Stewardship Campaign 2026**

Generosity is good for our hearts, when we are generous we prosper; our material and spiritual wealth grows; our happiness and community life flourishes. Christ's followers devoted themselves to generosity and on this foundation they built the first Christian church.

Let's learn how to become devoted to generosity.

#### Sunday, October 5

Generosity Creates Community
Acts 4:32–37

#### Sunday, October 12

Generosity Can Only Flow Out of Grace Acts 5:1-11

#### Sunday, October 19

Generosity Takes Down Walls Acts 11:19-30

#### Sunday, October 28

Generosity Produces Blessings Acts 20:32-35



Sunday, November 2nd **All Saints Sunday**Special Music will be a part of the service.



#### SHINE!!!

As we enter the season of thanksgiving, let us learn from the book of Philippians what it takes to live a life that shines in the midst of all life's ups and downs.

Sunday, November 9th

<u>Gratitude</u>: a grumble-free life

Philippians 2:12-18

Sunday, November 16th Christ modeled <u>Humility</u> Philippians 2:1-11

Sunday, November 23rd <u>Joy</u> in all circumstances Philippians 4:10-13



#### Advent

Sunday, November 30th - December 21st



Join us on Wednesday, December 24th at 4PM for our Christmas Eve Service.



October 15, 2025

10:30 AM Hymn Sing 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Come worship with our neighbors at New Perspective! Pastor Paola will lead worship in the chapel on the 3rd floor.

Communion will be served.

Future services: Nov 19th and Dec 17th

A special thanks to **Susie Brown** for playing the piano, **Dave Pauly** for playing flute, & **Bill Watt** for planning & leading for the services at New Perspective!





During our search for a new teacher, there will not be regular Sunday School. All of the children are invited to use the children's busy bags. Please pick up and return to the counter outside of the Sanctuary. You will find activities that are related to the scripture of the week, colored pencils, stickers, and fidget toys.



On December 14th, the **children and youth** will lead the worship service. We will be having a Christmas Planning Meeting on

Sunday, October 12th from 10:00—10:30 am.

All children, youth, and adults are invited to join us in our planning. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jo Martin.



Please pray for the confirmation class of 2025/26: Ava, Josephine, and Maura.

Our first meeting is on Sept 28th at 10:30 am
The first 20 minutes of our first meeting
will be with the families.

We will meet once a month through May 10:30 am - 12:30 pm



#### **YOUTH FUNDRAISER**

The youth are having an ongoing fundraiser selling Pete's Pops Popsicles. They will be for sale in the Narthex every Sunday.

\$5.00 each while supplies last.





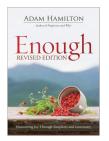
If you enjoy singing we would love to have you as part of our **Church Choir**. Please contact Michelle Oberwise Lacock at (630) 336-2317 or by email at <a href="mailto:mlacock54@gmail.com">mlacock54@gmail.com</a>.

### **Handbell Choir**

Handbell choir practices every Wednesday at 6:30pm. If you are interested in becoming a handbell choir member please reach out to Brenda Lindsay (262) 894-0644 or by email blindsay001@wi.rr.com.

We would love to have you join us.

### **NEW FALL BIBLE STUDY**



Join us for a 4 week Bible study to grow in Joy, Faith and Generosity as we study the book "Enough" by Adam Hamilton. The study is part of our stewardship campaign.

#### All are invited to take part in our book study.

The study will be offered during 2 different times:

Thursdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am (Oct 2,8,16,23) or

Sunday from 10:15 am to 11:15 am (Sept 28 -Oct 5,12,19)

A Sign up sheet is available in the Happening center. We hope you will join us.
Study books are \$10.00.

It is NOT too late to join!

**Leaders: Pastor Paola and Bonnie Wojcik** 



Our knitting ministry meets every Thursday from 10:00 am - noon in the Church Library.

We would love to have you join us.



# Salem's Dartball League

Our Salem team plays Tuesday nights at Salem and at area churches. No experience is needed. 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

**Dartball begins October 7th**. We will be having a practice Tuesday evening September 30th at 7:00pm at Salem.

Anyone who would like to give it a try, please stop by. Anyone and everyone is welcome. Contact Doug Lindsay for more information.



Thank you to everyone who joined us. Everyone had a wonderful time.









#### "SHOW YOU CARE WITH UNDERWEAR"

Our collection of underwear and socks will continue until Sunday, September 28th.
Collection bin is under the Outreach Bulletin Board. Monetary donations are also welcome. Feel free to use a pew envelope clearly labeled with UNDIES" -The Outreach Committee



# Volunteers needed!

Food Pantry update - Salem's team continues to volunteer on the 2nd Monday of the month. But, we are down from 5 volunteers to 3. We would welcome any one who can commit to the 2nd Monday 12:30 - 3:00 pm.

Visit <u>www.waukeshafoodpantry.org</u> for more information about volunteering and the different types of volunteer jobs.



The pantry could also use the following items: cereals (not Cheerios or cornflakes), cat food, diapers (all sizes) and personal hygiene such as toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, razors, laundry and dish soap.

Feel free to purchase any of these items and drop them in the collection bin at the grocery store or at church.

### **MORE WAYS TO HELP THE FOOD PANTRY**





- Monetary donation. Please mark your donation with **Meijer** gift card. Outreach will purchase the gift cards when Meijer runs their Double Match campaign.
- Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser.
   Profits have been designated for the Food Pantry.
- Creative shopping! Buy when you see a sale. Kohls had packs of socks on clearance + additional markdown + 40% coupon. If you buy Undies early, bring them to church as we have a place to store them. Or, Pick N Save coupons where you must buy multiple items to get a sale price, keep what you need and donate the rest.
- Honey Sales. A portion of the purchase price will be used to benefit the Food Pantry.



#### **Snack Collection**



#### School has started...

Snack collection for Hadfield Elementary School has started and will continue throughout the 2025-2026 school year! Please help us by bringing in healthy snacks, and placing them in the basket found at the Happening Center.

Thank you, Salem, for your continued support of Hadfield School! It is a blessing to the children.



Proceeds go to...

The Food Pantry







SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025

#### SUNSET BOWL

333 W. SUNSET DRIVE WAUKESHA

1:00 REGISTRATION

2:00-4:00 ALL YOU CAN BOWL





#### TICKET PRICE INCLUDES:

- 2 HOURS OF BOWLING
- PIZZA & SODA! Fun for all









#### Windy Hill Fundraising Music Concert

to benefit Healing Hearts

Salem United Methodist Church

Saturday, November 15th at 7 PM

On November 15th at 7:00 pm, the Windy Hill Handbells, Brass and Recorder Consort will be presenting a free concert. A free will donation to benefit Healing Hearts on behalf of Salem UMC will be taken. This event is for all members of the family!! All are welcome and encouraged to attend.





It's not too early to start thinking about bringing Christmas smiles to children in struggling families across Waukesha County. Collection for toys and gift cards and stamps for Eras will begin on November 30th - December 14th. The Blessing of the Toys/gifts will be during worship on Dec 14th.

#### For those who like to plan ahead, these are some of the most-needed items:

- Hats and waterproof mittens and gloves: ages Birth to 11
- New books: including Spanish or duallanguage books
- Infant and toddler toys: especially riding toys for toddlers
- Sleeping bags and blankets
- STEM-related craft items

Thank you Salem for your continuous support of the toy collections for the Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha County!



\$10 Walgreens, Pick N Save, Walmart Gift Card & Book of Forever Stamps (please include gift card receipts)



Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Hope Center Community Meal.



# **MESSAGE** from the Trustees

September was a month of many high level projects. Dave Pauly installed the new bell tower cross. Thanks, Dave, for taking on this very big and challenging project that included the fabrication, powder coating, and installation of the new cross on the top of the bell tower.

After a long wait, we received the replacement panels for the bell's cabinet for the Windy Hill Handbell Choir. The initial shipment was damaged, which created a long holdup. Jim Seegers approached it with optimism but found it to be very challenging due to very poor assembly documentation. After an exhausting ten hours of labor, Jim got it done. Thank you Jim for your work on the cabinet and for fixing the entrance door.

The next project is to install the doorbell camera on the front door. Caryn Adair is spearheading this and it should be done in the coming weeks. Thanks, Caryn!

Respectively submitted, Jeff Seeboth



#### A Special Thank you...

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who helped with unloading the delivery of our new handbell storage cabinet for the Windy Hill Handbell Choir. A special word of appreciation goes to Jeff Seeboth and Jim Seegers for their time and energy in assembling the cabinet for our use. We are grateful to Salem United Methodist Church for their support of the music ministry and the Windy Hill music ensembles.

Sincerely, Nancy Van Brunt and Craig Hurst

## OCTOBER 2025 LECTIONARY

#### October 5

Lamentations 1:1-6 Psalm 137 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10

#### October 12

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Psalm 66:1-12 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

#### October 19

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

#### October 26

Joel 2:23-32 Psalm 65 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14

### A Note of Gratitude to Perla...



We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to our talented and dedicated church pianist. Week after week, you bless our congregation with your musical gifts, creating an atmosphere of worship, reflection, and joy. In addition to her regular service, Perla has been volunteering her own time to learn and practice the organ, bringing even greater richness and beauty to our worship.

Your music sets the tone for our services, helping us to connect more deeply with God and one another. Whether it's a gentle prelude that soothes the soul or a triumphant hymn that lifts our spirits, your playing brings so much meaning to our worship.

Thank you for the countless hours you spend preparing, practicing, and pouring your heart into every note. Your faithfulness and love for God shine through your music, and we are truly blessed to have you as part of our church family.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry as you inspire and lead us through the gift of music. From all of us at Salem, thank you for all that you do!

# Getting to Know...

Over the next few months you will get a chance to "meet" Who's Who in the Pew





Harriet Young grew up in the small town of Clarinda, Iowa. She met her late husband, Bill, while working at a Credit Assoc. and he was attending college in her town. After they married, they moved to Des Moines and were transferred to WI for Bill's job where they joined Salem in 1972. Harriet has been involved in many, many church committees including having been the church secretary! When not involved in church activities, Harriet enjoys quilting, rug hooking and reading. Harriet has three children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great

Gloria and Gary Rongstad grew up within 2 blocks of each other. They really "met" in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and went all through the Cudahy School system together. They married soon after high school and when Gary joined the Army they moved to Germany for several years. When they settled back in WI, they had three children (and now have 5 grandchildren) They have been Salem members since 1977, Gary became an over the road truck driver until his retirement 21 years ago. Gloria has done office work for the IRS, for Salem as our secretary, and Office Manager for many years with a local builder. They both love camping, golfing and spending winters in Florida.





**Deb Oswalt** was born in Indiana, but moved to Big Bend due to a job opportunity for her father. After graduating from Mukwonago High School, she attended UW Whitewater obtaining degrees in elementary Education and Library Science. And where do you suppose she started teaching? Mukwonago! She taught grades 3, 5 & 6 at times, eventually becoming a school librarian before she retired. Deb joined Salem member about 45 years ago, and is a faithful worker at the Food pantry and other Outreach activities. She loves trying new recipes and is a talented guilter.

# BOOKSALE

Sunday is the last day to take a look
And find yourself a really good book!
If you'd like to have a book sale again,
Save books etc. to donate, for kids, women and men.
We hope you found items worth the price you paid,
And will let you know how much money we made.
Thank you for participating in the sale!





We are in need of greeters and fellowship snacks this FALL. Signing up is easy—just stop by The Happening Center and snack counter to add your name to the list.



