

*Thoughts from Pastor Paola...*

After Jesus died and returned to heaven, the disciples were waiting in the Upper Room in fear. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came in power and transformed them. They left the room and began to speak with boldness, and the church was born. Later, the Holy Spirit gave everyone special gifts so that they could be equipped to grow the church, serve each other, and go out and serve the world.

The Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts to all of us. They are called spiritual gifts because they are more than just talents. Often overlaps with our talents, but they are more like divine abilities given to each of us to bless others.

You can recognize your spiritual gifts because when you use them, they bring you joy, self-fulfillment, and at the same time transform the lives of those you serve..

Again, we all receive gifts from the Spirit. They may be gifts of help, comfort, and care. Or maybe gifts of hospitality, encouragement, speaking, administration, leadership, wisdom....

Sometimes we need to pay attention, take some risks, and uncover our spiritual gifts. Sometimes they change over time as our lives change.

The worst thing we can do is not to use the gifts we receive from the Holy Spirit.

My mom has a large chest full of tablecloths hand-embroidered by her mom. She received them as a gift when she got married and never used them for fear of damage it. I understand why. They are precious to her. Yet, by not using it is like she never received, never enjoyed, never shared with others, and used them for family meals and gatherings.

A gift left unused is not a gift.

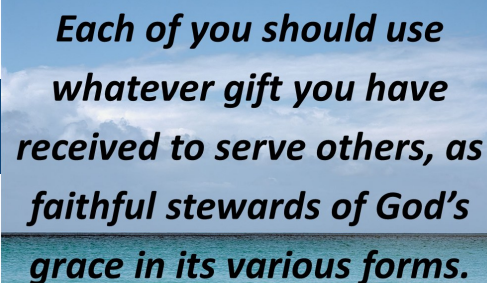
I would like to invite each of you to unveil your spiritual gifts and start using them in service to each other and our community. When you start using your spiritual gifts, you become fully part of the body of Christ, living in connection with God and each other.

Salem needs your gifts and your service. Please pray about it, pay attention to the needs that arise, use your creativity, and offer your service.

You are Jesus' hands for the transformation of the world.

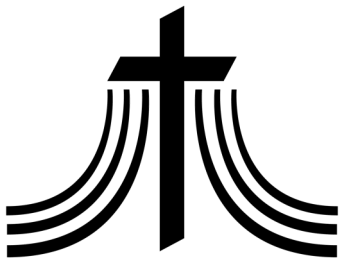
Amen,

Pastor Paola



***Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.***

1 Peter 4:10



*Salem Shines Christ's Light*  
of hope and compassion, inviting all to grow, connect & serve.

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> Trinity Sunday  
**SERVE** - Romans 12:3-21



**TRINITY  
SUNDAY**

**SURPRISE Sunday**

Sunday, June 7th - Communion  
Join us for a fun, unusual worship service  
where you are in charge!



Both Pastor Paola and our music leaders will be put on the spot. The congregation will pick the hymns and ask questions during the message time and service.

Jesus reminded us to...

*"Let little children come to me, and stop keeping them away, because the kingdom of God belongs to people like these"* Mark 10:14



We are dedicating two Sundays to our children. This will be an opportunity to hear from the scriptures and from Salem youth on how to fully welcome children among us.

**Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> - Graduation Sunday**

*How can my parents and grandparents help me to discover my gifts and my calling?*

**Samuel's mother leads him toward his life purpose. 1 Samuel 1-3**

**Sunday, June 21 – Father's Day**

*How can I use time and space away from my family to grow up?*

**Jesus in the temple: time to be apart.  
Luke 2:41-52**



**SUMMER SUNDAYS**

**Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>,  
Pastor Pete Peterson**

**Sunday, July 5th - Communion  
The Gift of Freedom  
Galatians 5:1; 13-15**

**Sunday, July 12th  
Pastor Pete Peterson**

**Sunday, July 19th  
Report from Annual Conference  
Pastor Paola and Bonnie Wojcik**

**Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>,  
The Power of Small Things  
Matthew 13:31-33**

**Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> Communion  
Service dedicated to Mujila Falls Fundraiser**



More information in the Mujila Falls article.



## BAREFOOT AND FEARLESS

Fear, when rightly used, is a gift. Yet fear can easily keep us from living a full and joyful life. This summer let us learn from the Psalms how to release our fears and live as a confident and joyful child of God.

**Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

***Overwhelmed with fears?*** Psalm 139

**Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**

***Anxious About the Future?*** Psalm 23

**Sunday, August 23<sup>th</sup>**

***Fear of aging ?*** Psalm 71

**Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**

***How Big is your God?*** Psalm 8

**Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

***Can we embrace and transform our fears ?***

Psalm 94



### Chapel Service *Next Door*

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026**

**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.

**Upcoming services: August 19th & September 16th**

***NO Chapel Service in July***


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

## Congratulations!

**Ava, Josephine, and Maura**



**Congratulations** to Ava, Josephine, and Maura on your confirmation. A special thanks to Harriet Young for the beautiful confirmation banners.



**Sunday, May 31st**  
Please join us for a pop-up choir. No experience necessary. Just arrive at 8:15 am for practice before the service. Contact Michelle Oberwise Lacock if interested.



## Summer Music Opportunities

During the summer, while the choir and bells are off, we will have special music every Sunday. Are you interested in sharing vocal or instrumental gifts during the service? Do you know someone who would like to play or sing? We'd love to have them come and share their talent with us.

We still have a few openings if you'd like to share your musical talent with the congregation.

Please contact Michelle at 630-336-2317 if you are interested.

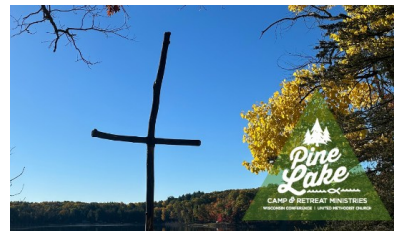


## A note from Mrs. Brookins...

In Sunday School this year, we did a mix of crafts, games, scripture reading, and discussion to learn about God, Jesus, and the Bible. We especially enjoyed playing games and moving around - the more active or hands-on the better! Each week, our topic was connected to the Scripture being read in the church service to allow for youth and their families to talk together. The Youth led a Christmas service in December and led a Cereal Drive around Easter. Next year, we look forward to more hands-on learning together!



Many thanks to Kelsy Brookins for leading our children and youth through this past school year. Please be praying for Kelsy and her family as they await the arrival of Baby Brookins this summer.



## KID'S SUMMER CAMP 2026

2026 Registration is now open for Pine Lake. You can register for camp until a week before camp starts. Camps run through the end of August. More detailed info is in the Happenings Center.



**Congratulations to our 2026 GRADUATES!**

**Join us on Sunday, June 14th as we celebrate the achievements of our graduates.**

### High School Graduates:

Franklin Hughes  
Carson Greuel

### College Graduates:

Aaron Buxengard  
Cole Nease  
Mason VandeYacht  
Jonalee Feller



## Summer Youth Service Opportunities

An opportunity for children, youth, and young adults to serve this summer...

Throughout the summer, we will be setting up 3 days (June, July, and August) to serve for a few hours each time at Inspiration Ministries in Walworth, WI. <https://www.inspirationministries.org/>

Inspiration Ministries is an awesome Christian place that welcomes and opens opportunities for adults with disabilities. We will have 3 projects /times with residents with games, ice cream, etc

This is a project for all ages, with or without parents. We will organize transportation. I hope you can join us for one, two, or all three dates. I know you will return home filled with joy.

# Outreach MINISTRY



Thank you to everyone who volunteered to serve the meal at the Hope Center.



## INGATHERING

Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church

**LAST DAY—May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Sunday, May 31st is the last day to give donations for the Ingathering at the Wisconsin Annual Conference. Funds will support home care and personal dignity items. Our donations will be delivered at the Annual Conference.

Please state Ingathering in the memo.

***Flyers with details about what your monetary donations will be used for are available in the Happenings Center.***

Serving other people  
is love in action.



## Hadfield Snack Collection

Salem began our snack collection in May of 2022 for Whittier Elementary School's end of year celebrations. They held two outdoor Field Day events, and we provided snacks for these events. After Whittier merged with Hadfield Elementary in the fall of 2022, we began to have an ongoing snack collection for the children. We also secured a 3-year grant from the Wisconsin Conference for the support of the school, in which we purchased clothing for the health room, supplies for the classrooms, and snacks. In addition, through a generous donation, we were able to provide each child with a bandana and hat to help them celebrate their end of the year "Honky -Tonk" Art and Music Festival.

For the school year 2022-2023, we delivered **1,609** snacks.

For the school year 2023-2024, we delivered **2,573** snacks.

For the school year 2024-2025, we delivered **2,280** snacks.

We will be ending our collection for this school year on May 31<sup>st</sup>, and to date, we have collected and delivered **2549!!!**

We will resume our snack collection in the fall and look forward to working with the school.

Hadfield wants Salem to know how grateful they are for our support! What an impact Salem has made to so many children!

The Outreach team and Hadfield School thanks all of you who have made this program such a huge success!



If you remember, The Food Pantry received a gift of 3.5 million (2.5 mil was to help purchase a building and the remaining 1 mil is to establish an endowment fund that will provide maintenance for the future). A warehouse on Prairie Ave in Waukesha has been purchased. It is more than double the current size and will provide separate access for clients and deliveries.

BUT it is in need of extensive renovations as the building is an empty shell. To finish paying for the building, enlarge the parking areas, create safe egresses for volunteers/clients and redesign the interior space, they estimate they'll need approximately 8 million.... over what they collect for food/supplies for clients. It's a big number but I believe that the AMAZING Pantry staff can do it!

### Maybe we can help!

- 1) Do you know of any grants or matching company funding that could be applied to this project?
- 2) Please follow the Pantry on Facebook. It is a great way to know what they need.
- 3) Share Pantry facts with friends and neighbors.

**NOTE: Given the amount of money needed and the work to be done, they are estimating the new facility will open in 2028.**



## Join us for Pie Day!!!

**\*\*\*Sunday, August 2\*\*\* in support of this year's fundraiser for the**



This year we will be raising funds for staff housing. There are only a few workers' houses today and many were built in the earlier phases of the project with bricks and mud, not the burnt bricks and cement mortar used today. Good houses will help attract more workers of better quality.



Because of heavy rain, the roads were terrible so there was a delay. The concrete structure for the goat house is almost done, and they will be using sawn timber for the other parts. Temba has been contacting suppliers and will soon purchase more goats and quickly transport them now that they are in the dry season!!!



### Undie Sunday is Coming This September!

Help us support the **Hope Center in Waukesha** by donating **new socks and underwear** throughout the month of September. **How you can help now:** Keep an eye out for after-school sales and clearance racks—it's a great time to grab a few extra items for those in need!

#### Got donations early?

No problem! We have a storage space ready, so feel free to drop off your items in the office **anytime before September**. Together, we can make a real difference—one pair at a time!

# Getting to Know... Who's Who in the Pews

Thank you to Gladys Roszkowski for taking the time to write the "Getting to Know"...articles.



Maggie was originally from West Salem, IL and met Ken Bringa, a native of Menomonee Falls, at a Singles Activity Club. After she gave him her phone number, they started dating and their wedding took place in Jamaica. They have now been married 25 years! Maggie thought Salem church choir needed a strong alto and they enjoyed the 10:45 service, so became members. Ken retired from doing IT work for the Village of Menomonee Falls after 33 years. Maggie is still going strong as a State Farm Insurance Agency. They enjoy spending time with their four grand-kids and love gardening and outside "work".

**We want to get to know you. If you would be willing to be featured in the Who's Who in the Pews, please see Gladys Roszkowski. She is always looking for someone for Salem to get to know better.**

## Vacation TIME!

- Kari will be on vacation from June 2nd to June 9th. She will be back in the office on Wednesday, June 10th.
- Perla will be on vacation on July 12th. A big thank you to Susie Brown for blessing us with her musical gifts.
- Pastor Paola will be on vacation June 25th - June 28th. She will also be in Italy July 6th—July 17th. If you need Pastoral care during her absence, please contact Pastor Pete Peterson. You can also contact the church office at [office@salemthehill.org](mailto:office@salemthehill.org).

Welcome  
Sunday Morning  
Greeters Needed



Please consider signing up to bring and serve fellowship snacks and/or be a greeter.

Signing up is easy—just stop by The Happening Center & snack counter to add your name to the list.

### New Way to Give at Salem Now Accepting Venmo!

We are excited to announce a new and convenient way to support the ministry and mission of Salem. In addition to our traditional giving options, donations can now be made through Venmo. Venmo offers a simple, secure, and quick way to give using your smartphone or computer. Whether you are making a regular contribution, supporting a special project, or giving while away from church, Venmo provides another easy option to stay connected in generosity.

#### Giving through Venmo is as simple as:

1. Open the Venmo app
2. Search for our church account @SalemUMCWaukesha or scan the QR Code
3. Enter your donation amount
4. Add a note if desired
5. Submit your gift securely
6. Enter 6976 as the last 4 of our phone number



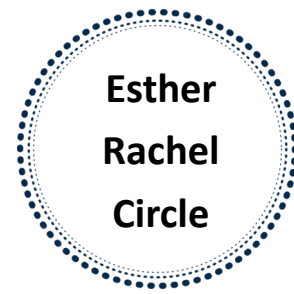
**venmo**

*Note: There is a 1.9% fee + .10 per transaction.*

Every gift, no matter the size, helps support the ministries, outreach, and mission work of Salem. We are grateful for your continued generosity and faithful support. Thank you for helping us embrace new ways to give and serve together!

# Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church

The Wisconsin Annual Conference will be held in Madison, Wisconsin, June 4-7 2026 at the Madison Marriott West Convention Center. This year the theme is **PRACTICING HOPE** which is based on the verses in Romans 5:3-5. Pastor Paola and Bonnie Wojcik will represent Salem at the Conference. They will deliver the Ingathering Monetary Donations from Salem that will then be used for Home Care and Personal Dignity Kits.



We are having a Salad Luncheon on **Monday, June 1st at 1:00 pm**  
Join us for a potluck of delicious salads and fellowship.  
**Please bring a salad to share.**  
We can't wait to see you there!



## God has been good...

What better way to begin this short paragraph?

Over these past few months, we have experienced God's grace. We celebrated the eighth anniversary of the ministry, as well as our first year here in Waukesha. Our pastor also received his new appointment to Johnson Creek. Our gratitude to Salem Church and its members grows with each passing day. Thanks to our presence here, the ministry continues to grow.

We have participated in several activities together, and we hope that—before this year comes to a close—we will be able to do something together once again. \*Restauración\* is delighted to be in Waukesha, bringing the good news of salvation to the Hispanic community.

Thank you, Salem Church.



LIFTING PEOPLE TO BETTER HEALTH



## STRONGBODIES

Strong Bodies is a strength training class for men and women 60+ years old.

**The class is FREE.**

SUMMER CLASSES have begun and will run through July 27th.

**MONDAY and THURSDAY**

Mornings from 9:15 - 10:30 am  
in Fellowship Hall.

**YOU CAN JOIN ANYTIME.**

More information is in the Happening Center.  
To register call Courtney at (262) 548-7835  
or by email at [cklepp@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:cklepp@waukeshacounty.gov)



## TRUSTEE BOARD Monthly Report

- We are cleaning the carpet in the Sanctuary, Narthex, Library, and offices. The cost of the carpet cleaning will be \$1750. They will remove the chairs in the Sanctuary and return them to their current location after cleaning. Finance has approved this project that will be scheduled in June.
- The door seals on the entrance doors into the Narthex have been purchased for \$125 and will be installed in June.
- Trustees discussed the Narthex lighting project. We received a quote for \$27,080. Finance approved moving forward with this project. The total cost will be \$30,000 which includes the installation done by a professional electrician. This project is being made possible by a generous gift in honor and memory of Betty and Paul Henderson. Further information about this project will be shared in church on Sunday, June 14th.

Respectively submitted,  
Jeff Seeboth

**construction  
zone**



The next phase of work at intersections of Racine Ave, Sunset Dr, and Broadway along the E. Waukesha Bypass have begun and will continue through Saturday, June 6th.

Contractors will complete sewer, grading, paving, and watermain relocation in the northwest quadrant of Racine Ave. Right turn access from SOUTHBOUND WI 59 to WESTBOUND Racine Avenue are restricted. Please avoid Racine and try coming to church from Broadway through New Perspective.

## Two Beautiful Benches Have Been Donated For Along the Salem - New Perspective Path



Salem has been blessed with the donation of two beautiful benches that have been placed along the walking path between Salem and New Perspective. These benches are intended to offer a peaceful place for rest, reflection, conversation, and prayer for all who use the path. The benches will provide a welcoming spot for residents, visitors, neighbors, and members of our church community to pause and enjoy God's creation and the connections we share with one another.

We are deeply grateful for this meaningful donation and for the spirit of kindness and community it represents. This thoughtful gift will be appreciated by many for years to come. The benches are a wonderful reminder that even simple acts of generosity can create lasting comfort and encouragement for others.



## **TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW BOOKS!**

After our book sale, we purchased a number of new books for Salem's library. There is a variety for you to choose from; both fiction and non-fiction. And don't forget to look inside the library! If you are in need of a suggestion, Carol or Gladys would be glad to help you find something for you summer reading.

# Softball

Tuesday Senior Softball team!  
 (age 50+) The team is sponsored by  
[Salem United Methodist Church-Waukesha](#)  
 and we are off to another great start:  
 TIED for 1st place with a 5-1 record!



FRONT ROW (L to R): Tim Bartz (LF), "Jose"-Chito Cruz (2B), Simon Martinez (SC) & John Galewski (SS/Ass't manager)!

BACK ROW (L to R): Elliott Rifzis (RCF), Allen Goetz (C), Peggy Kartheiser (RF), David Schuh (P), Frank Gittins (C), Tom Kitzke (3B) Pete Van Aacken (scorekeeper), Nelson Lariuz (1B), Kurt Guenther (LCF/Manager) & Susan Guenther (Co-Sponsor)

We are TRYING to be the FIRST TEAM in "LEAGUE HISTORY" to make the playoffs 12 straight years! It is a talented team that **Kurt Guenther** has the honor of coaching - along with great assistant coach (for 6 years): **John Galewski!**

Frank Gittins (age 93, middle of back row) our LEGENDARY player (an 8-time teammate) is the FIRST player in league history to play 39 CONSECUTIVE YEARS of 55+ Softball)!

The team is "CO-SPONSORED" by Coach Kurt & Susan Guenther @ NO COST to Salem Church.

Regular season GAMES are played Tuesday mornings at 9:15 or 10:30 or 11:45 AM at 35<sup>th</sup> & Burnham St. in Milwaukee. Games go through July 21! PLAYOFFS start July 28 & (HOPEFULLY) Aug. 4 & Aug. 11 !

ANY questions or for weekly game times, call or text Coach Kurt Guenther: (920)210-2650

## Summer Lectionary



### June 7

Genesis 12:1-9  
 Psalm 33:1-12  
 Romans 4:13-25  
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

### June 21

Genesis 21:8-21  
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
 Romans 6:1b-11  
 Matthew 10:24-39

### June 14

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)  
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
 Romans 5:1-8  
 Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

### June 28

Genesis 22:1-14  
 Psalm 13  
 Romans 6:12-23  
 Matthew 10:40-42

### July 5

Genesis 24:34-38,  
 42-49, 58-67  
 Psalm 45:10-17  
 Romans 7:15-25a  
 Matthew 11:16-19,  
 25-30

### July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a  
 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24  
 Romans 8:12-25  
 Matthew 13:24-30,  
 36-43

### July 12

Genesis 25:19-34  
 Psalm 119:105-112  
 Romans 8:1-11  
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### July 26

Genesis 29:15-28  
 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b  
 Romans 8:26-39  
 Matthew 13:31-33,  
 44-52



Salem has carpenter bees. They are active near wood surfaces. Carpenter bees are generally harmless to people and play an important role as pollinators.