



the Bugle

Last month I highlighted the process that is unfolding for a capital appeal effort this fall. Much work will be done in the next few months and the whole Salem family will be invited to share in dreaming, envisioning future ministry opportunities for the next 3-5 years. Where will you be in your journey of life and faith in five years? It is a little daunting to look that far into the future but that is where we will be looking together, into the future with hope as we are engaging God's mission and growing in faith and ministry for current and future generations.

This is one of the reasons Salem's ministry teams and council agreed to support a decision to revisit how Sunday mornings will be structured this fall. Summer will come to a close with an exciting opportunity to share in many things together on **August 28**. The Faith Formation and Worship and Music Ministry Teams are planning a cross generational choir event. This is for anyone to take part. Rehearsal will take place on **August 21 after the 9am worship** and then share a song in worship on **August 28**. It is a great way to participate without the needed multi-week rehearsal schedule. It is one way that Salem is trying something new for the sake of engaging more members. Also on that day, kids will be encouraged to bring their school backpacks for a blessing and to receive a customized tag to witness their connection to Salem. Additionally, all are invited to stay after worship for a church picnic with games, a service project and just to enjoy some time together. It will be a fun way to share the morning together.

Then, on **September 4**, there will be a cross generational Sunday school time to learn about the Fruit of the Spirit and finally, on **September 11**, all opportunities resume, including education for all ages at **9:45am-10:45am** as well as two worship times, **8:30am** and **11am**.

Salem's Vision Statement describes who we are as a congregation. ***Growing People in Christ through dynamic and meaningful worship and prayer as the vital core fostering our sense of belonging.*** It is this word, "**dynamic**" that has stirred in me this month and that I have high expectations for what is being planned for the weeks and months ahead and what I hope will lead us into an exciting future filled with all hope and joy in believing.

I am excited for what is yet to be, and I invite you to share in that excitement and take part in many opportunities to love and serve others in Jesus' name together. I look forward to seeing you and sharing with you in dynamic and meaningful ministry possibilities. I invite your prayers and eager participation.

STAFF TRANSITIONS
THANK YOUS AND WELCOME

There are a few staff transitions that have happened recently that are important to publicize. First, Isabel Gonzales finished her time as Office Coordinator and is preparing to go off to Illinois State University in Normal later this summer. We thank her for her work and wish her well on this next path of learning and growing. We



Toni Greving, Office Coordinator

have said both welcome and goodbye to Leah Grebner in this same position as she provided good service for a time before and again after Isabel. Thank you, Leah for your service and help as coordinator as well as trainer for the next individual. We now express welcome to a new individual in the office position, Toni Greving. Toni began July 13 and brings a wealth of volunteer coordinating and office management skills with her as she begins work among us. Welcome, Toni.

Lastly, after nine years in the role of nursery attendant, Stephanie Dammann has decided to step down and prepare for another child in their family. Stephanie has cared for children and assisted in the layout and design of the nursery and leaves the position ready for other creative options to consider for this possible ministry position. Input from young families is especially welcomed as we pause to consider future nursery needs at Salem. If you have ideas, please share them through the church office via phone (309-688-9212) or email (office@salemofpeoria.com) so they can be passed along to Congregational Care Ministry Team for consideration.

So again, thank you to Isabel, Leah, and Stephanie and welcome to Toni. It is a blessing when various gifts are shared for the sake of Growing people in Christ to love and serve others.

Follow in the Footsteps:
What are the lessons
we may take from St. Paul?

Through readings in June and July, Paul's letters to the Romans, Galatians and Colossians were explored. Worship for August continues to focus on a selection of Paul's letters to the Corinthians, as part of this journey to follow Paul's footsteps. Summer Faith Formation also has online lessons and videos, so you may read and watch to learn more about Paul and his many travels as a missionary this summer.



- Craig Swenson, Senior Pastor**
cswenson@salemofpeoria.com
- Jill Goldhammer, Deacon,**
Children, Youth & Family Ministries
jgoldhammer@salemofpeoria.com
- Joan Creager, Senior Ministries**
- Toni Greving**
Office Coordinator
office@salemofpeoria.com
- Meghan Peterson, Communications**
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- Gretchen Petrakis, Director of**
Sunday School
gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com
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Pastoral Emergency Number:
In case of emergency please call:
Pastor Craig: 309-258-4759 or
Lori Reimer: 309-303-3808

AUGUST MEETINGS & EVENTS

For more information: salemofpeoria.com/communications/calendar/

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS at 9am (online/in person)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- SUNDAY, JULY 31 at 7PM:** Adult Fellowship:
Peoria Municipal Band at Glen Oak Park
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 at 10AM:**
Blood Pressure testing in Parish Nurse office
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 at 12PM:**
Adult Fellowship: Trivia at
St. Paul Lutheran Church

FAITH FORMATION

- WEDNESDAYS at 10am:**
Bible Study on Zoom with Pastor Craig
- AUGUST 18 and**
SUBSEQUENT THURSDAYS at 9:15am:
Adult Bible Study, led by Bill Ligon
- WED, AUGUST 31 at 7:30pm:**
Salem Book Club on Zoom

OUTREACH

- AUGUST:** Food collection for Bethel United Methodist
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 7:** Fair Trade Sunday
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 28:** Lutheran World Relief Kit assembly at Salem Picnic

WORSHIP & MUSIC

- SUNDAY, AUGUST 21 at 10:15am:**
Cross+Generational Choir Practice
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 at 9am:**
Cross+Generational Choir

SALEM COUNCIL & MINISTRY GROUP MEETINGS

- TUESDAY, AUGUST 2 at 7pm:**
Salem Council Meeting (in person)
- MONDAY, AUGUST 8 at 6:30pm:**
Congregational Care Ministry
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 at 7pm:**
Outreach Ministry
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 at 7:30pm:**
Faith Formation Ministry
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 at 7pm:**
Salem Churchmen Meeting
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 16 at 7pm:**
Property & Finance Ministry
- TUESDAY, AUGUST 23 at 6:30pm:**
Worship & Music Ministry
- WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24-25:**
Salem Capital Appeal Team Training
- WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31:**
Endowment Meeting

- SALEM COUNCIL & LIAISONS**
Grant Peterson, President, Endowment
Ann Roberts, Vice President, Outreach
Kris Griffith, Secretary
Dave Swanson, Treasurer
Kelly Brinkman, Faith Formation
Matt Grebner, Worship & Music
Emily Jolliff, Faith Formation
Todd Kelly, Worship & Music
Jason Lantz, Property & Finance
Maren Thompson, Congregational Care
Gretchen Petrakis, Faith Formation
Eric Schroeder, Property & Finance
email: salemcouncil@salemofpeoria.com

Atrium Design Team

As Salem continues to learn how to utilize renewed spaces, ideas have begun to be shared more formally. Julie Kotewa is facilitating a team of individuals to consider furnishing and utilizing the large gathering space commonly now called the atrium. The purpose of the team is to listen to ideas, recommendations, as well as concerns regarding the furnishing and using this unique space, and share recommendations with Property & Finance Ministry.

At present, local companies have been solicited to help offer quality furnishings and design assistance. If you have ideas or concerns, related to how this space could be used for various purposes, please share your thoughts throughout the month of August and early September. If you are interested in being part of the team that reviews designs, listens and learns, and ultimately recommends possibilities, please share that desire also.

Please address your verbal or written responses through the Salem office (office@salemofpeoria.com) with attention to Julie, Atrium Design Team Facilitator.

Thank you in advance for your ideas and input during this early planning stage.

Adult Fellowship

Peoria Municipal Band at Glen Oak Park

Bring a chair and join Adult Fellowship on **Sunday, July 31 at 7pm** for Peoria Municipal Band at Glen Oak Park. It should be a rockin' evening with Stevie Wonder and Friends. Alison Meuth returns to sing with the band and the trumpets are featured as well.

Trivia Night with St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church (1427 W Lake Ave, Peoria) is hosting a trivia contest on **August 14 at 12pm**. All are invited to attend.

Salem Book Club

Salem's Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, August 31 at 7:30pm-8:30pm via Zoom**. Our book is "When Strivings Cease" by Ruth Chou Simons. All are invited to join for one book or all the time. This book was scheduled for June, however, Book Club was cancelled for the month. We will discuss this book in August. The book is available in the Salem Library, on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Target, and Christianbook.com. The author also has a website that you can check out for more information - <https://ruthchousimons.com>

In this hustling, image-forward age of opportunity, we feel more anxious than ever. Despite all the affirming memes and self-reflections that dominate social media feeds, approval and worth often seem assigned to what we do rather than who we are. And we end up constantly feeling like we're behind, lacking, and failing—at home, at work, with friends, with God.

Ruth Chou Simons knows something about feeling measured by achievement, performance, and the approval of others. As a Taiwanese immigrant growing up between two cultures, Ruth was always on a mission to prove her worth, until she came to truly understand the one thing that changes everything: the extravagant, undeserved gift of grace from a merciful God. In *When Strivings Cease*, Ruth guides you how to confront the ways you look to superficial means of acceptance and belonging; find relief in realizing self-help isn't the answer because you can't be so amazing that you won't need grace; stop seeing God as someone to perform for and start finding delight in responding to his welcome; and let go of trying to rely on your own strength, your own abilities, and your own savvy by truly understanding the freedom Jesus purchased for you.

With personal stories, biblical insights, practical applications, and touches of original artwork by Ruth, this transformational book helps you see the beautiful truth that God's favor is the only currency you need—because in Christ you are enough.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? Sunday?

Are you interested in sharing excitement and hope through Salem this fall? Sundays are great opportunities to reconnect and renew that excitement. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are connected within by love, reach out in hope to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with one another, the community, and the world.

At Salem Lutheran Church, guests and members alike are welcomed every Sunday. **Sunday, August 28** offers a great day to intentionally invite a friend with you to join in the many opportunities, which begin with worship at 9am.



SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9AM:

- Cross+Generational Choir
- Backpack Blessing
- Installation of Faith Formation teachers

AFTER WORSHIP STARTING AT 10AM:

- Service project for Lutheran World Relief
- Salem Church Picnic:
 - 10am-11am:** outdoor activities: games, balloon animals, and music
 - 11am-noon:** picnic lunch in social hall (bring a dessert to share!)
 - noon-1pm:** bingo in the social hall

Most studies indicate that 80% of non-church-goers would likely visit a local church if someone simply invited them. Taking action to invite those around us can have a life-changing impact. ***Who will you invite to worship with us to grow people in Christ through dynamic and meaningful worship and prayer?***



SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9AM

AFTER WORSHIP AT 10:15AM:

- Blood Pressure Testing
- Fair Trade Sunday
- Salem Family Sunday School (all ages!)



TWO WORSHIP SERVICE OPTIONS!

This fall Sunday morning schedule includes two worship times and education hour beginning on **September 11**.

- 8:30am – Worship
- 9:30am – Fellowship (cookies in the Social Hall!)
- 9:45am-10:45am – Education for all ages
- 11am – Worship

Worship Volunteer Opportunities

As Salem transitions to two worship services on **September 11**, there are worship volunteer opportunities for worship participants including: communion assistants, lectors, ushers and livestream operators. Please contact the church office (office@salemofpeoria.com or 309-688-9212) if there is interest in participating in any of these volunteer positions.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread...

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped at Vacation Bible School, **June 27-30**. Please let us know if there been any oversight so that our volunteer list will be complete. What a great week it was!

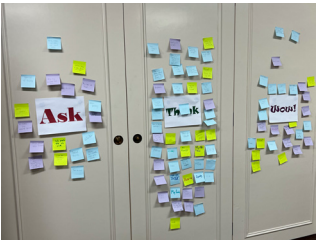
Adults Volunteers:

Carol Adams
Pat Arehart
Joann Blum
Ken Bundren
Cathy Emitaz
Deacon Jill Goldhammer
Leah Grebner
Dave Griffith
Laura Hartman
Caiden Hickey
Merrell Hickey
Karen Holmes
Connie Iverson
Roberta Kessinger
Walker Koeltzow
Ellen Koester
Julie Kotewa
Stacy Lantz
Suzanne Ligon
Pam Machacek
Sharon Mollenhauer
Inez Norgard

Anitra O'Connor
Helene Peterson
Meghan Peterson
Nancy Peterson
Dave Rees
Kyle Rose
Christina Rose
Amy Schroeder
Jeanne Setterlund
Rebecca Sipf
Maggie Sloter
Molly Sloter
Kelly Swanson
Rosemary Swanson
Pastor Craig Swenson
Paula Sydow
Renee Udell
Nadine Willems
Renee Udell

Student Leaders:

Blake Buckhardt
Makenzie Buckhardt
Natalie Buckhardt
Hank Cochran
Sophia Doty
Ella Hartman
Isaac Hartman
Jacie Howard
Sienna Hopkins
Sydney Hopkins
Emily Peterson
Landon Peterson
Brianna Schroeder
Makayla Schroeder
Annie Swanson
Micah Thompson
Allison Tuck
Carter Udell



Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.



School Supply Collection

The Outreach Ministry group is sponsoring the Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project. School supplies will be continue to be collected for the project throughout the month of August. Items needed:

- 70-80 sheet one subject spiral notebooks wide or college ruled (4/bag = 600 notebooks)
- 12 inch ruler (1/bag = 150 rulers)
- 1- one hole manual pencil sharpener (1/bag = 150 sharpener)
- 1 pair blunt safety scissors (1/bag = 150 scissors)
- 5-# 2 pencils unsharpened (5/bag = 750 pencils)
- 5 black/blue ballpoint pens, no gel ink (5/bag = 750 pens)
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons (1 box/bag = 150 crayon boxes)
- 1 -2.5 inch eraser (1/bag = 150 pink erasers)

Donations may be left in tubs in the Fellowship Lounge and Atrium. Cash donations would also be gladly received. Monetary donations may be given to ushers at worship or the church office during the week.

We need your help to make Lutheran World Relief School Kits on Sunday, Aug. 28



During the church picnic on **Sunday, August 28 after 9am worship**, there will be an opportunity to participate in a service project for the Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project. Outreach Ministries has a goal of assembling 150 school kits and on Sunday, August 28 assembly will begin. School Kits provide normalcy in times of crisis thank you for your partnership in this Outreach event.

Kroger Community Rewards

Salem Lutheran Church is a community partner with Kroger. From April through June total donations to Salem Lutheran Church were \$54.41. The Kroger Family of Companies is committed to community engagement, positive social impact, and charitable giving at the national and local levels. Every community is unique, but their common goal is to partner with the neighborhoods they serve and help the people there live healthier lives.



The Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Kroger Card to an Salem Lutheran Church, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe or enter your Shopper's Card.

Here's how it works:

1. Create a digital account.

A digital account is needed to participate in Kroger Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose.

2. Link your Card to an organization - Salem Lutheran Church.

Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple as updating the Kroger Community Rewards selection on your digital account.

1. Sign in to your digital account.
2. Search for Salem Lutheran Church.
3. Enter the name or NPO number (MJ105) of the organization you wish to support.
4. Select the appropriate organization from the list and click "Save".

Your selected organization will also display in the Kroger Community Rewards section of your account. If you need to review or revisit your organization, you can always do so under your Account details.

3. Salem Lutheran Church earns.

Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.

If you have any questions, please contact the Kroger Customer Service Center.

Fair Trade Sunday

Outreach Ministry group will be selling fair trade items in the atrium on **Sunday, August 7.**

August Food Collection

To continue the non-perishable food collections for Bethel United Methodist's Food Pantry, Outreach Ministry will be having theme months - please donate anytime during the month.

AUGUST DONATION THEME:

"Kick Hunger to the Curb"

Please consider donating sports drinks, water, tea, snacks.

CROSS+GENERATIONAL CHOIR

Salem’s Faith Formation and Worship and Music Ministry Teams are partnering together to provide an exciting music ministry opportunity. You are invited to join our Cross+Generational Choir for elementary age young readers through adult. This choir will hold one rehearsal on **Sunday, August 21 at 10:15AM-11AM following worship**, and focus on learning one song accessible to various ages and musical skill. The choir will then share this song during worship the following **Sunday, August 28**. This short term commitment is a great way for many to experience the joy of choir while enhancing our worship with beautiful music. If you are interested in participating, please sign up at the following link (<https://form.jotform.com/221925927895169>)

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER

Walking for Health Benefits

One of the easiest exercises with many health benefits is walking.

Some of those benefits include:

- Strengthening your heart and improving circulation. This decreases your risk for both coronary disease and strokes.
- Burning calories which helps with maintenance or loss of weight. It may additionally help with lowering of blood sugar.
- Helping to protect your joints by bringing oxygen and nutrients to the area. It also strengthens the muscles that support those joints.
- Improving your mood, decreasing anxiety, and boosting your self-esteem. In addition, it can help improve your daily sleep and decrease mental decline.

To ensure your safety when walking outside always try to walk in areas designated for pedestrians that are well lit. If walking outside in the early morning or evening, wear reflective clothing and carry a light. Wear sunscreen in the sunlight and stay hydrated. Sturdy shoes with good support and loose, comfortable clothing are also important for safe, easier walking. If you have any health concerns, be sure to check with your health care team before starting any exercise program, including walking.



THANK YOU

Dear Salem Friends,

Thank you for all the sympathy cards few received for the death of my mother, Irene Sawatzy. They were very comforting and I will pass them on to my sister in Seattle.

Mom didn’t know many of you, but she always appreciated being remembered with the seasonal gift bags and flowers at Lutheran Hillside Village. She especially enjoyed cards from the Sunday School children.

Love, Jennifer Gregg

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Cliff Shoemaker and Daryl Ann Crosby who were united in marriage on **Saturday, July 9**.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 2

Maggie Sloter

August 3

Paul Bahnfleth

Cloyd Conard

Candence Forkell

Patty Lantz

August 4

Idan Ghazanfari

August 6

Nancy Owen

August 8

Patricia Arehart

Rebecca Sipf

August 9

Nicholas Doty

Quinn Salverson

August 12

Jan Taylor

August 13

Gayle Carrillo

August 14

Justin Grabel

August 15

Jaedyn Johnson

Riley Neltner

August 16

Heather MacIver-Arnold

Jon Ripper

August 17

Jill Sidell

August 18

Nona Mitchelar

August 19

Liam Dammann

Dylan Schroeder

August 21

Evelyn Aprahamian

August 22

Jason Breidel

August 25

JQ Scoville

Leo Vandervlugt

August 27

Joy Anderson

Amy Schroeder

August 28

Dennis Krus

Ellen Mangan

Marian Meinert

August 30

Levi Salverson

August 31

Donald Graves

Dylan Rastatter

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

- Salem’s growing ministry

DIRECTION...

- Salem Congreg. Council
- Salem’s Pastor, Deacon and Staff

PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- All those affected with COVID-19
- The men and women of our armed forces
- Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer
- Individuals suffering from depression
- People of Guatemala
- Ulrich family in Malawi
- Families at Crittenton Center

- Midwest Food Bank
- Nancy Bastian
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Lesly Baumgarten
- Luan Borquist
- Butch Conard
- Gabe
- John and Tanya's daughter-in-law and their family
- Jack Grant
- the family and friends Mary Jo Harderson (Sarah Bidne's mother)
- Ron Hipple
- Hope
- Lesley Howard
- Helen Johnson
- the family and friends of Terri Johnson
- Julie

- Lizzie
- Morgan Lott
- Marta
- Marian Meinert
- Bill Mettam
- Natalie
- Jo and Gil Nolde
- Lana Pasco
- Donita Purcell
- Rosy Park
- Shirley
- Nadine Willems

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

Stateside: Gibson Gonzalez, Emily Graff, Barry Joyce, Jim Sterling, Jason Sterr
Overseas: Ian Borquist, Talon Maki



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

SALEM FAMILY PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28



9AM: Worship

10AM-11AM: Service Project and
Outdoor Activities

11AM-Noon: Picnic Lunch
in Social Hall

pulled pork sandwiches,
mac n' cheese, chicken nuggets,
beans, potato salad, fruit salad and
potluck desserts from congregation
(please bring something to share!)

Noon-1PM: Bingo in Social Hall