



the Bugle

“Do not be afraid.” These are words often spoken by Jesus to his disciples when faced with uncertainty. Do not be afraid are words of Jesus as waves toss the boat to and fro on the sea of Galilee. Do not be afraid says the prophet Isaiah, (Isaiah 41:10), I am your God. Do not be afraid, says the angel in gleaming white clothing. **“He is not here; for he has been raised.”** **“Do not be afraid,”** says the risen Jesus after his greeting to the Marys at the tomb. When have you needed to hear these words of comfort and assurance? When has life caused you to be afraid and uncertain of the future? Each of us face times in our lives when we feel lost, confused, anxious and otherwise afraid for what will come next. I know I have. My first recollection was when I was in kindergarten and missed my mom. There was no such thing as preschool that prepared me for the separation I would experience when I was away from home from 8am to 3pm. The one hour bus ride was one thing, sort of an adventure, but the long day of unfamiliar left me staring out the window and longing for the day to be over so I could return to the comfort of my home.

Many of us have faced similar experiences of the long and lonely journey to the tomb of uncertainty. We have experienced losses and have felt deep grief. For the early followers, Jesus had died and what to do next was uncertain. Two Marys did the only thing they knew to do, go to the last place where they had seen Jesus — his lifeless body, wrapped in linen cloths, placed in a nearby tomb. It was not fear they first experienced but deep sadness. What they encountered, however, was something far different, an earthquake, an angel, Roman soldiers. A dramatically different setting than what they had expected, and fear overcame both the soldiers and the two Marys. Then came those reassuring words, **“do not be afraid.”** We can attempt to stir courage in the face of fearful situations but the courage we muster pales in comparison to the gift of faith God provides.

Early on the first day of the week, we gather on Palm Sunday to hear the Passion Reading, sent on our way then to return on both Thursday and Friday to prepare us for Easter Sunday when we will come together to sing Alleluia at the news of Jesus’ rising from the dead. He did so long ago and does so among us still, bringing comfort to our anxious souls. I encourage you to join in the journey as Lent draws to a close and we look to the light of Jesus and declare, “Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” I look forward to seeing you as we journey together and live the story of Jesus, risen and living among us. Blessed Easter!

-Pastor Craig

Alleluia!

CHRIST IS
Risen!
HE IS RISEN, INDEED

Alleluia!

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2 at 8:30AM / 11AM

WAY OF THE CROSS: SUN, APRIL 2 at 9:45AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 5: 11AM / 6:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 6: 11AM / 6:30PM

Easter

SUNDAY, APRIL 9:
6AM (outdoors) /
8:30AM / 10:30AM
Breakfast from **7AM-10:30AM**

Risen

They gathered together in the upper room
Lost in thoughts of their impending doom,
When suddenly they became aware,
They were not alone, Jesus was there.
Joy filled their hearts, their courage restored;
For they had seen the risen Lord.

Down through the ages, the message was spread
Christ is alive! He is not dead.
Christians learned of Christ's sacrifice
How for our sins He paid the price
That we, too, might be restored
And one day see our risen Lord.

- Luan Borquist (2023)



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Bugle content for May 2023 due by April 14.

Pastoral Emergency Number:
In case of emergency please call:
Pastor Craig: 309-258-4759 or
Lori Reimer: 309-303-3808

Easter Flowers

Salem is purchasing Easter Lilies for the Easter services. Donations of \$20 will be accepted to help offset the cost of the lilies and to allow people to honor, memorialize, or celebrate their loved ones. Your order must be in the church office no later than **Monday, April 3**, so the content may be included in the slides.

Opportunity to Serve at Salem

This past fall, a group of ladies volunteered to become Weekday Welcome Center Hostesses during the weekday mornings from 8:30am to 10am. These wonderful ladies answer the phones, allow door entry and help with various tasks. This has proven to be such a blessing for the church, the office staff and the ladies who have volunteered.

This opportunity is being expanded by implementing an afternoon team. Times and days are flexible and will be determined by the team members.

If you are interested, please contact Toni at 309-688-9212 or tgreving@salemofpeoria.com. We are excited to work toward becoming even more engaging and welcoming at Salem and look forward to seeing what the Lord will do!

More Than Pink Event

Salem has registered a team for the More Than Pink Walk™, the Salem Lutheran Saints. The walk will be **Saturday, May 13**. If you want to register for the walk and join the team, or If you are unable to join, but wish to make a donation, go to https://secure.info-komen.org/site/TR?pg=team&fr_id=9602&team_id=468757

There are also ways to participate and support the Salem Saints Team through Susan Komen's More Than Pink™ beyond the walk:

- **April 29 at 5pm** – English themed fundraising dinner at Grebner home
- **Thursday, May 11 at 6:30pm** – Pray for the Cure

Property Clean-up Day, April 1, 8am-10am

Help clean-up the outdoor church property in preparation for Easter Sunday service the following weekend. 5-10 are people needed.

Save the Date for Spring Work Day, Saturday, May 6, 8am-noon

Please considering volunteering in May. There will be projects for all indoors and outdoors! Planning to clean-up and refresh landscaping and garden areas. 20 plus people needed.

For any questions please contact the Salem Churchmen president, Tim Hickey.

Special Congregational Meeting, April 16

A special congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 16 at 9:30am during Education Hour. A letter will be received for more information.

Faith Formation Calendar Spring 2023

March 31 at 6pm: "Last Friday at Salem"

April 1 at 9:30am at First United Methodist:
Loaves and Fish

April 2 at 9:45am: Way of the Cross Program

May 5 at 6pm: "First Fridays at Salem"

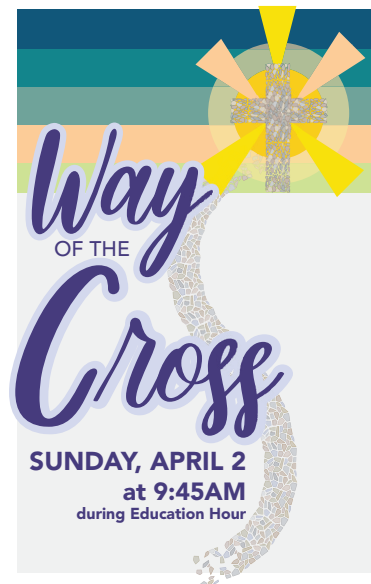
May 21: Last day of Sunday School /
Graduation Sunday / Youth singing at worship service

Summer 2023 (June – August)

June 26-29: Vacation Bible School

Faith Formation Meeting

Interested in being a part of the Faith Formation ministry team? All are welcome as this ministry team continues to vision and plan for the future. The next meeting date is: **Tuesday, April 11 at 7pm** on zoom. Please contact the church office to receive the meeting link.



Way of the Cross

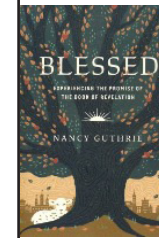
You are invited to follow along on **Sunday, April 2 at 9:45am**, as the Salem Lutheran Church Faith for Life Students trace the footsteps of Jesus, beginning with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Salem Lutheran Preschool

Openings for Fall 2023! Salem Lutheran Preschool currently has enrollment openings for three and four year olds. For over 45 years Salem Lutheran Preschool has prepared children for kindergarten in a fun and loving learning environment. Please contact Pam Machacek for a visit today at (309) 688-9212.

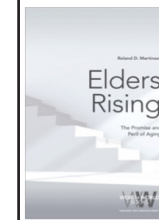


Salem Library



Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation by Nancy Guthrie (228.07 GUT)

Too often, believers shy away from studying Revelation---but we're missing out! In this accessible yet robust guide, Guthrie explains that John's prophecy is less about when Jesus will return and more about who we're meant to be---and what we can expect to endure---as we wait for his coming to establish his kingdom.



Elders Rising: The Promise and Peril of Aging by Roland D. Martinson (305.26 MAR)

In this inspiring book, Martinson draws on the folk wisdom and experience of over fifty persons between the ages of sixty-two and ninety-seven. He puts this wisdom in conversation with scriptural and theological understandings of elders in the last third of life and sets forth perspectives on aging for individuals, groups, civic organizations, and congregations to utilize in developing a vital, resilient, and productive quality of life for elders. Martinson lays out a process for helping communities, including faith communities, become "vital aging centers" where elders are called to look honestly and hopefully at life's third chapter and to make it a time of discovery, adventure, and capacity. The volume will help congregations better serve the needs of elders and integrate elder wisdom and capacity in their mission and ministry.

Salem Book Club

The Salem Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30pm via Zoom**. Our book this month is **At Home in this Life**, by Jerusalem Jackson Greer.

In the author's own words...



"At Home in this Life is the story of how everything I thought would make me happy came undone, and then how I found a way to make myself at home in this beautiful, messy, amazingly tender, completely unbalanced life, by imperfectly practicing one spiritual discipline at a time—smack in the middle of raising kids, mending the sweaters and burning the bread.

It's the story of how I finally realized that the "problem" with my life was not my house, my job, or my marriage. My problem was me, and only a Conversion of life, a Transformation of spirit and heart would help. And so I jumped in with both feet into an experiment – an experiment by where I tried to follow God's leading instead of my plan, an experiment that resulted in a lot of fits and false starts, gut-level honesty and true change. Beautiful, messy, chaotic, daily... this is the story of how I learned to make myself at home in my life. A lesson I will forever need a refresher course on I am sure!"

Author Jerusalem Jackson Greer is attending Salem's Book Club meeting on April 26. Enjoy meeting her and discussing her book.

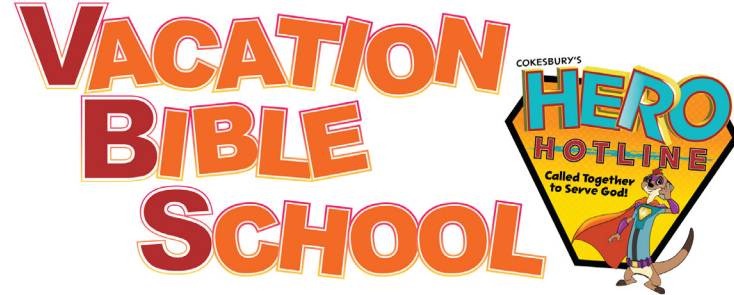
Vacation Bible School 2023 Hero Hotline

Monday, June 26 – Thursday, June 29 from 9am-noon

Called to Serve Together - Hero Hotline Vacation Bible School invites children of all ages to the Hero Hotline Headquarters where everyone's gifts are valued, and every hero has a role to play.

At Hero Hotline, kids are invited to learn from the heroes of the Bible! As kids (called Heroes) experience these stories through music, storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace! And, best of all, they'll be invited to answer this call at Vacation Bible School, at church, at home, and in every area of their lives.

Salem Lutheran Church



ADULT AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS (6th Graders and up!)

Vacation Bible School is a high impact event for children at Salem in the Peoria Community. Help is needed on **Monday, June 26 – Thursday, June 29 from 8:30am-noon**. It takes a great number of adult and student volunteers to provide Vacation Bible School to a large outreach community event. Youth and adults are encouraged to invite a friend to help you help at Vacation Bible School. We have big jobs and small jobs – every volunteer matters! Please contact

the church office at (309) 688-9212 or office@salemofpeoria.com with any questions or sign up online: salemofpeoria.com/vbs-2023.

HEROES (PRE-K-5th Graders)

We look forward to seeing Pre-K – 5th graders at Salem Lutheran Church, **Monday, June 26 – Thursday, June 29 from 9am-noon daily**. *Salem members: We bet you know some families you can invite to this AWESOME EXPERIENCE! Let us know how can we help you invite others!*



First Friday Night Fun: May 5, 2023, 6pm-8PM

Monthly Fellowship for Parents and Children in Pre-K through-8th Grade at Salem Lutheran Church

Do you know someone who needs a PARENT NIGHT OUT? Please Invite them!

FOR CHILDREN: Come this month for May Day and Mother's Day Crafts, music, pizza, games and a different lesson about God prints (which are all over us!) every time we gather. The kids will have dibs on the whole first floor!

FOR PARENTS: Parents will gather for fellowship on the third floor and will have their own Cinco de Mayo Party with food and fun activities!

Questions? Please contact the church office at (309) 688-9212 or office@salemofpeoria.com.

Fill the Crib for Crittenton Center throughout the month of April



Salem will be collecting the following items in the Atrium at church throughout the month of April: diapers (size 5-7), pull-ups (size 4T-5T), formula, wipes, and basic need baby supplies.

Or, you may visit any of these stores on-line to order and send your items directly to Crittenton: Walmart, Amazon, Target, and Amazon Smile For direct links the registries to do your shopping on-line, please visit: <https://crittentoncenters.org/donate/#inkind>

About Crittenton:

Crittenton Centers believes strong families build strong communities. Each day they work to prevent child abuse and neglect while strengthening the family unit. Through providing crisis intervention and supportive parent education services, they are strengthening families. Crittenton Centers focus their work in three primary service areas including crisis nursery, child development center, and Family Services.

Loaves & Fish, April 1



Northern Conference Youth Board and Salem Lutheran Church are hosting a Cross Generational Lenten Service Project at First United Methodist Soup Kitchen in downtown Peoria on **Saturday, April 1 from 9:30am-1:30pm**.



Scan Here to Register

Meet at Salem Lutheran Church at 9am to ride the bus.

Loaves and Fish is a weekly feeding ministry providing a free meal, food pantry, and medical clinic to those in need each Saturday. Loaves & Fish serves up to 300 guests weekly.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years and up to serve unaccompanied. Children ages 10 – 15 must have one adult present for every child.

Quilts for Lutheran World Relief

For the past 15 years or so, Jeanne Setterlund has been working with a group of ladies to assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). The group sends at least 80 quilts each year plus they make about 10 veteran's quilts for the local VA Clinic. Obviously, this requires a lot of fabric for quilt tops and backs... plus something for the middle layer.

As you work on spring cleaning your drawers and closets, consider this effort and donate sheets (flat or fitted), blankets, fabric stashes (yardage or leftovers that you've planned to use someday) to our group instead of Goodwill. Bedding can be worn in spots as we use them in full as quilt backs, or we cut them in squares and strips for tops and backs. We can also use yarn and thread to finish these projects.

Another person in the group beautiful infant sweaters for LWR layettes -one each week - and always needs 5/8" or 3/4" buttons in sets of 6. If you have any donations or questions - or would like to join the group, please give Jeanne Setterlund a call 309-369-1991.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER

Even if you don't walk for your daily exercise routine, most of us are on our feet regularly throughout the day. Each step you take involves a complex network of bones, muscles, tendons, and ligaments. This, combined with the weight they carry, explains why feet can have problems. Some of these foot ailments are bunions, arthritis, bursitis, plantar fasciitis, strains, sprains and bone fractures. While other medical conditions may also contribute to foot issues, your foot health can be a clue to your overall health. For example, tingling or numbness could be a sign of diabetes or swelling might indicate kidney disease or heart disease. Good foot care and regular foot checks are an important part of your health care. Some basic steps to protect and care for your feet include:

- Wash your feet daily with soap and lukewarm water and dry thoroughly.
- Use this time to check your feet for cuts, swelling, and dryness.
- Trim your nails straight across and not too short.
- Change your socks at least daily.
- Wear comfortable, proper fitting shoes and ones that are appropriate for the activity.
- If visiting a salon for foot care, be sure it is clean and licensed and that they sterilize instruments after each use.
- Check with your health care team if you have any concerns about your feet.

Thank You

- Dear "Salemmites," Thank you for the Christmas cards and candy, and I also would like to thank the Sunday School children for the Valentine's Day card and the candy. It is nice to be remembered. God's Blessings to all – Carl and Helen Buerger
- Thank you to our Salem Family for your prayers, the expressions of concern and emotional support you've given Larry and me during this last couple months during and after my reverse total shoulder replacement and his chemotherapy and monoclonal antibody infusion therapies. What a huge blessing you have been in our lives during these challenging weeks. We would appreciate your continued prayers and encouragement as Larry continues his infusions and I progress in therapy these next few months. – Julie and Larry Kotewa
- Thank you to the individuals and groups who made food, served, and cleaned up for the Lenten lunches, as well as those attended. Your presence in fellowship is most appreciated. – Congregational Care

March Noisy Can Offering

On Sunday, March 5 at both worship services a Noisy Can offering was received for Lutheran Disaster Response. Thank you to your generosity as \$905.03 was collected and your gifts are designated for "Middle East Crisis," to provide long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by disasters in the region.

The next Noisy Can Offering will be received **May 7**.

The Church Mouse

If you are doing any spring cleaning, please keep The Church Mouse in mind. Donations accepted Monday-Saturday from 10am – 3pm at 600 West Main Street, Peoria near the campus of Bradley University. Questions may be directed to Shirley or Joan at (309) 673-2363

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS! APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1

Randy Carlson
Michelle Hassel
Martin O'Connor

April 2

Craig McGregor

April 3

Caleb Bradle
Susan Otten

April 4

Judy Cagle
Kevin Hodgkins

April 5

Michael Bohm
Brianna Schroeder
Sheryl Snider

April 6

Sandra Salverson

April 7

Lynn Akers

April 8

Alexander Kelly

April 9

Amy Koepke
Gretchen Petrakis

April 10

Deana Collins

April 11

Julia Kotewa

April 12

Joyce Crone
Julie Hancock
Poppy Jolliff

April 13

John Gregg

April 15

Julie Millman
Leslie Scott

April 16

Sienna Hopkins
Sydney Hopkins

April 18

Carl Buerger, Jr.
April Pierce

April 19

Caroline Ricketts

April 20

David Sydow

April 22

Jody Adams
William Petrakis

April 24

Connie Iverson

April 25

Marlie Heider
Jacie Howard

April 26

Elyse Hickey

April 27

Makayla Schroeder

April 28

Kamryn Heider

April 30

Dennis Mitchelar

PRAYER REQUESTS

THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

- Salem's growing ministry

DIRECTION...

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

PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- Salem's Sister Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church (Olney)
- 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
- Carol Adams

- Karmita Alwan's mother-in-law
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Luan Borquist
- Bre and her friend
- Rebecca Johnson
- Jim Chelgren
- Tom Christell
- Colleen Cole
- Butch Conard
- John Day
- Zachery Dickerson
- Bill Fischer
- John and Tanya's daughter-in-law and their family
- Leah Grebner
- Ken Gulliford
- Norma Hartman
- Ron Hipple
- Lesley Howard
- Helen Johnson
- Julia and Larry Kotewa
- Lindsay granddaughter of Sharon Mollenhauer
- Lizzie

- Morgan Lott
- Marta
- Marian Meinert
- Bill Mettam
- Jo and Gil Nolde
- Larry Olsen
- Nancy Owen
- Helene Peterson
- Linda Peterson
- Rosy Park
- Debi Smith
- Brant Wegrzyn
- Allen Willers
- Teresa Wright and family
- Zachery

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

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



The Bugle
USPS 477-460



Easter AT SALEM LUTHERAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 9:

**6AM (outdoors) /
8:30AM / 10:30AM**

Breakfast from
7AM-10:30AM