



# the Bugle

As November unfolds, hearts are drawn to responses centered around thanksgiving. Crops are being gathered and plans are being made for the year that is yet to come. Many families gather around feasts of turkey, stuffing and many side dishes as a way of reflecting on the gratitude for relationships that nurture and deepen life experiences. November is also time to gather a harvest and prepare for winter's rest. We rake leaves, till gardens and fields and await the months where the shadow of darkness lengthens and the warmth of the sun fades to the south. And yet, there is thankfulness for God's goodness which prevails and persists among us.

Words of two different hymns come to mind for me as I reflect on the season of thankfulness.

*Fruitful*  
**Generosity**

*"For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For these gifts of every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe keeping, thanks be to God."*

*"Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.*

*Gather a harvest of the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.*

*Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.*

*Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come."*

While family is important and very central in my life, I also am reminded that everything is a gift. It is therefore fitting to center my heart in gratitude to God and the delight to see the blessings received and entrusted to me to steward and treasure as God's gifts, family, friends, vocation, the created order of life and the beauty that surrounds us. What centers your heart? For what and who are you thankful?

**December 3 is Commitment Sunday**, the day we celebrate the gifts we have received and pledge to share as participants in the mission of Christ's church. I encourage you to prayerful consider the blessings entrusted to you and the proportion you feel is faithful to engage in the work God is calling us into. You may return the pledge card for general giving through the mail or with your offering when you come for worship. In the event you have yet to make a pledge to the capital response or wish to extend your existing pledge, a response card is included in the mailing to further assist with debt reduction and build a fund to address future capital improvements.

For the *"hopes and dreams of all"* as well as *"future needs in earths safe keeping,"* thanks be to God.

May this season of thankfulness draw us closer to God and to one another as we strive to reflect the goodness of God as a foretaste of what is yet to come.

- Pastor Craig

## FOR ALL THE SAINTS

### THOSE REMEMBERED THIS YEAR.

Susan, Barham, Susie Bohm, Emma Rees, Marilyn Stamerjohn, Ruth Landes, Carol Adams, William Mettam, Nancy Owen, Marien Meinert, Georgia Sutherland, Gil Nolde, Matthew Coyner



## Veteran's Day Recognition, Nov 12

We will be honoring our Veterans on **Sunday, November 12**. Please plan to join us in the Social Hall for refreshments and fellowship.

## Sunday Fellowship

Please be sure to stop by the Social Hall after the first service and before the second service for some fresh baked cookies and fellowship. Volunteers are needed to bring alternative snacks such as fruit. Sunday fellowship snack sign up is available in the Social Hall.

## Christmas Greetings

Let our members know they're remembered by providing a cheery greeting for their Thinking of You bags! You may bring you cards beginning on **Sunday, November 26 through Sunday, December 10**. The names of people to be remembered are:

**Lynn and Ed Akers, Nancy Bastian, Betty and Matthew Bennett, Alf Berg, Ruth Bock, Carl and Helen Buerger, Sue Colloton, Dolly Conley (Ruth Bock's sister), Marty and Joan Creager, Velma Crowley, John Day, MaryAlice Erickson, Vi Gruber, Ron and Norma Hartman, Ron Hipple, Janet Jones, Bea Kent, Clarence and Lois Knutson, Carol Love, Suzanne McMickle, Bob Middleton, JoAnn and Paul Misselhorn, Carolyn and Henry Noe, Jo Nolde, Rosy Park, Kay Peterson, Linda Peterson, Marty Plunkett, Marilyn Setterlund, Phyllis Shadley, Marilyn Smith, Fred Stamerjohn, Wanita Van Scoyoc**

The bags will be located outside of the Social Hall through **December 10**. If you are interested in delivering these greetings, please sign-up at the Welcome Center. Bags will be available for delivery on **Monday, December 11**. These Christmas greetings are sure to be cherished!

## Ladies' Night Out

The next Ladies' Night Out at Salem Lutheran is **Monday, December 4 at 6pm**. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.



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### Pastoral Emergency Number:

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

### Sunday Worship

8:15am / 10:45am

### Education Hour

9:30am



## Thanksgiving Dinner: 140th Celebration

On **Wednesday, November 15 at 5:30pm** at Salem's Thanksgiving dinner turkey, dressing, sides, and dessert will all be provided. A free-will offering will be taken to purchase grocery gift cards for Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School families. Checks should be made payable to Salem Lutheran with "CT Vivian" in the memo line. During the Thanksgiving meal, there will also be a highlight of Salem's 140th anniversary.

### ABOUT DR. C.T. VIVIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School is a public school that serves 369 students in K – 4. The mission of Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School, a community that honors and embraces diversity, is to ensure an excellent academic foundation through a nurturing, supportive, and safe environment for each child to achieve their highest character development and partnership with their families and community.

Salem has partnered with Dr. C.T. Vivian through the Adopt-a-School program for over 20 years. Beyond this offering for grocery gift cards for families in need, Salem members volunteer in the classroom, provide items for Teacher Appreciation treats, and provide outreach benevolence.

The stability of homes is different nowadays. The broken home is now generational. Kary Boerger, principal at C.T. Vivian Primary school has shared that the school's biggest challenge is trying to do more with less. Thank you for helping continue to foster a relationship with Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School by providing the food gift cards that enable people to purchase their own food in a time of need.

**Please sign up today for the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Welcome Center to help with planning purposes. Please let us know on the sign up sheet if you need a ride.**

## Transportation Ministry

Salem Congregational Care Ministry is looking for a few transportation volunteers for occasions when members need rides to doctor appointments or short errands, but do not need our Parish Nurse Lori Reimer present with them in the doctor's office. There are also times when someone might need a ride to Sunday worship or night events like the Thanksgiving Dinner at Salem. If you would like more details or are interested in this important transportation ministry, please contact Kris Griffith (309) 370-2336 or [griffdk@comcast.net](mailto:griffdk@comcast.net).





## October Food Collection

Throughout the month of November please consider donating items for Salem's partner in ministry - Bethel United Methodist Food Pantry. Items that the pantry needs include: **canned vegetables, canned meats, canned soup, cereal, paper towels, Kleenex, and toilet paper.**

## Fair Trade

Fair trade sales are planned for the first Sundays of November and December. Thank you for your support. If you are in need of items, you are welcome to call Jennifer Gallas at 309-256-5862 or email her at [Pew117@aol.com](mailto:Pew117@aol.com).

## Midwest Food Bank

The group will be labeling and/or packaging bulk food items so they can be readied for distribution to food pantries on **Wednesday, November 29 at 9am**. This project will be instrumental to helping Midwest Food Bank reduce hunger in our community. The project has the potential to impact large numbers of those in need! The group will be able to have fun together while making a difference for others! Volunteers will work together under the direction of a lead volunteer to get the assigned project done. Please RSVP to serve here: <https://portal.goldenvolunteer.com/timeslots/LNII8tCDuq>

## Noisy Can Offering

Marian Medical Missions - Salem will still be accepting gifts through the end of October. Please put Marian Medical Missions in the memo line. As of the Bugle printing, \$4500 has been received - that is 10 wells! The cost of one well, which is everything the villagers cannot provide (pump parts, cement, tools, transportation, and skilled labor) is \$450. Marion Medical Mission seeks to share the love of Christ with the extreme poor in Africa by providing all in need with a sustainable source of clean, safe drinking water. We glorify God by thanking Him, by trusting Him as He knows our needs, and by sharing the gifts we have received.

## Rally Day Service Project

Throughout August 2023, items for Welcome to Your New Home and Take Care: Basic Hygiene kits were collected for United Way who will distribute the items to Phoenix Community Development Services (Phoenix CDS) and other social service agencies in the Peoria community.

On Rally Day, September 10, a cross-generational team of about 55 people assembled the items collected into "kits" for United Way. A blessing and prayer for the people receiving the items we have collected was done by Gretchen Petrakis.

Through item donations, an August Noisy Can offering (\$242.98) and free-will offering (\$406) at the Salem Picnic, 85 hygiene kits, and 55 Welcome Home kits were assembled and donated to the United Way. Leftover items were donated, as well.

United Way was very grateful and overwhelmed by the number of kits Salem Lutheran donated. They said their partner agencies, such as Phoenix CDS, would be very grateful for the kits and the leftover items.



### Delivering the kits!

**ABOVE (left to right):** Wendy Jacobs, Community Engagement Coordinator of the Heart of Illinois United Way, Gretchen Petrakis, Jennifer Zammuto, President of the Heart of Illinois United Way

## November First Friday: Field Trip!

November's First Friday, will be a First Friday Field trip on **Friday, November 3**. We will meet at the Owen's Center (1019 W Lake Ave) for a night of family fun at the Mustang's hockey game. The game begins at 7pm, there is a concession stand if you wish to purchase food. Tickets will be free for the first 50 people sign up and \$5 per ticket after that. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Please let Rebecca Sipf know if you have any questions (937) 408-9461.

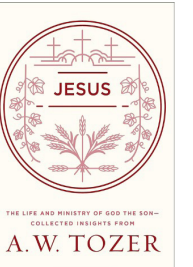
## November Book Club Night, Nov 29

Salem Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, November 29 at 7:30pm via Zoom**. You are invited to join us! The book for this month is "Jesus," by A. W. Tozer.

### About the book:

We give our attention to many things, but it belongs first to the Son of God. He is the radiance of the Father's glory and the fountain of wisdom. As Peter said, "To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Jesus, a compilation of writings by A. W. Tozer, presents a stunning portrait of the Christ. You will see Him as God's presence, humanity's savior, and the Lord of all. He is Priest and King, the bright star over all history, the hope of every heart. Do you know Him? Do you know you need Him? This book will spur your love for Jesus and inspire you find your life in Him.



# Lessons and Carols

*Join us at Salem Lutheran Church to celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season with Lessons & Carols on December 3 at 3pm at Salem Lutheran Church.*

The format for the Lessons and Carols service is simple: nine scripture readings following the fall of humanity, the promise of The Messiah, and the birth of Christ. Interspersed with traditional Christmas hymns, and musical offerings from Salem choirs, ensembles, as well as others within the Peoria community.

### Interested in participating?

All event rehearsals for Sanctuary Bell and Sanctuary Choir will take place during their regularly scheduled times on **Thursdays at 6pm (Bells) and 7pm (Choir)**. All are welcome to start joining choir rehearsals – it is not too late!

### Outreach Collection for the Center for Prevention of Abuse

Donations will be collected to support Adopt Our Families program for the Center for Prevention of Abuse. New items being collected are items that keep people warm:

**throw blankets, robes, pjs, socks, mittens/ gloves, winter hats**

Items will be collected in the Atrium until the event. If you wish to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to the Center for Prevention of Abuse. An offering box will be available during the event on Sunday, December 3.

The Center for Prevention of Abuse (CFPA) exists to help all people—women, men, and children—live free from violence and abuse. CFPA provides safety, counseling and therapy, advocacy for women, men, and children who have been affected by violence and abuse and works to prevent abuse from happening.

### Invite!

This is an opportunity to invite friends and family to come together to celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season. A short reception with light refreshments is to follow the service. Come enjoy this immersive Advent activity on **Sunday, December 3 at 3pm!**

## FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER

What is a caregiver? There is no easy answer but simply put a caregiver is a person who tends to the needs or concerns of a person with short- or long-term limitations due to illness, injury, or disability. As your caregiver role advances, you continuously are learning new tasks and routines for your loved one or friend to insure they are getting the best care and everything they need. Harder to do but very important is also caring for yourself. It's key to maintaining your own health and well-being. When you feel better, you can take better care of your loved one.

Keep these simple steps in mind to ensure you find the time and resources to take care of yourself: Get regular physical activity, even in small increments. Walking is a great way to get started, even if you only walk around the yard.

- Maintain a heart-healthy diet. Eating well will give you energy and can help prevent other health problems, too.
- Make time for yourself. Take time every day for an activity you enjoy, such as reading, walking, crafts, cooking or listening to music.
- Keep humor in your life. Try to find humor in your life every day. Watch a silly TV program or find things to laugh about with the loved one in your care — that person needs joy, too.
- Get out and about. At least once a week, break out of your caregiving routine and go somewhere enjoyable. Visit the local coffee shop, church service, visit a friend or just wander around the mall. If your loved one needs constant attention, ask for help.
- Watch out for depression. If you are experiencing signs of signs of depression, talk to your health care professional.
- Keep medical and dental appointments. Do all you can to maintain your health.
- Think positive. Take time every day to refresh your mind. Recognize your limitations and make peace with them. Let go of guilt. Pat yourself on the back for the job you're doing. If you're feeling guilty or angry, take a break.
- Stay connected with the outside world. Stay connected with family and friends, even if it's just by phone or online. Talk to friends about something other than your role as a caregiver.

If any questions, ask Lori about information and resources for caregiving.

## Church Women United

World Community Day 2023 - Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" Ephesians 2:10

Join on **Friday, November 3 at 9am at Glen Oak Christian Church (1115 E. Republic in Peoria).**

## Celebrate St. Hubert, First English Lutheran Church

Sportverein Peoria (the sporting arm of the Peoria German Club) and First English Lutheran Church are hosting a special worship service on **Saturday, November 4 at 3pm** to celebrate St. Hubert, the patron saint of, among other things, hunting. St. Hubert brought his hunting skills into his call to share the Gospel as a "Fisher for People." Most exciting of all, much of the music for the service will be provided by the *JagdhornblaserGruppe* of Cincinnati, OH, who will play liturgical music using traditional German hunting horns. Don't miss out on this unique and educational worship service! No RSVP required- just come and worship!

## Thanksgiving Eve Worship, First English Lutheran Church

First English Lutheran Church (725 E Forrest Hill Ave, Peoria) welcomes everyone to a Thanksgiving Eve service on **Wednesday, November 22 at 7pm** with pie fellowship after worship.

## Santa Lucia

The Brage Swedish Lodge will be celebrating Santa Lucia on **Sunday, December 10 at 2pm in the Salem Social Hall** and would like to invite the congregation. Refreshments will be served after the program.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### November 1

Ron Breidel

### November 2

Randolph Middleton

### November 3

Mark Janco  
Linda Wragge

### November 5

Kris Griffith  
Lois Knutson  
Suzanne Neltner  
Jacqueline Storks

### November 6

Richard Serrahn

### November 7

Matthew Grimm

David Sterr

Nathan Wiesehan

### November 8

Evan Lott  
Suzanne McMickle

### November 9

Lachlan Kelly

### November 10

Jennifer Gregg  
Carolyn Noe

### November 12

Alf Berg  
Tyler Blum  
Benjamin Uphoff  
Julia Wallstedt

### November 15

Peyton Manning

### November 16

Chad Doty  
Mickayla Hughbanks  
Barbara Ricketts

### November 17

Kirsten Kelly

### November 19

Emily Ferrell

### November 20

Susan Faulkner

### November 21

Isabel Gonzales

### November 22

Jerome Sokolowski

### November 23

Lynette Christensen  
Dennis Thomasson

### November 24

Andrew Ferrell

### November 25

Megan Faulkner  
Heather Hopkins

### November 26

Catherine Setterlund

### November 27

Kathryn Cowser  
Martin Creager  
Gary Johnson  
Aaron Kotewa  
Harper Wowra

### November 29

Matt Bastian

## Planning to Make a Year-End Charitable Contribution to Salem?

If you are planning a gift to offset 2023 income, you'll want to be aware of the official rules from the IRS: "Donors must deliver or mail checks on or by December 31, 2023, in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2023. Checks that are placed in the church offering on the first Sunday of 2024 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2023, even if the check is pre-dated to 2023 or was actually written in 2023. However, checks that are written, mailed and post-marked in 2023 will be deductible in 2023 though they are not received by a church until 2024." Thank you for keeping these things in mind as you plan your giving.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR...

- Salem's growing ministry

### DIRECTION...

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

### PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- Salem's Sister Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church (Olney)
- 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
- Jocette and Salih Arbeyi missionaries through CRU

- Families at Crittenton Center

- Midwest Food Bank
- Wally Bastian and his family
- Luan Borquist
- Jim Chelgren
- Butch Conard
- John Day
- David's father-in-law
- John and Tanya's daughter-in-law and their family
- Bonnie Gallas
- Ken Gulliford
- Dennis, Terri and Kelsey Gustafson with the passing of Terri's mother, Frances Walter
- Susan Hamann
- Ron Hipple
- Lesley Howard
- Helen Johnson
- Julie Kotewa

- Lizzie
- Brenda and Mike Newcomb
- Jo Nolde
- Tim, Jessica, and Daniel Peterson
- Linda Peterson
- Rosy Park
- Donita Lynn Purcell
- Robyn
- Debi Smith
- Teresa
- Terry Tucker
- Brant Wegrzyn
- Mickey Welch

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

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





### Thank you!

S'more thank yous to Laura Hartman for hosting the Youth Group Campfire and Cook-out on **October 8** and to Lori Reimer and Raymond Weitzel for hosting the Adult Fellowship Bonfire and Cookout on **October 14**. (Three left photos from Youth Group and two right photos from Adult Fellowship!)