



the Bugle

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

-Ephesians 3:20-21

At the time, I was in the call process in 2018 with Salem, this Bible passage was taking root and became foundational for the Renewing God's House campaign. A Dream Leaders event with Pastor Jeff Linman kicked things off in July, I was called in August, team planning began, Salem signed a contract with Miller Architect & Builders to approve the plans and a full-fledged capital appeal was off and running. Ground was broken in September 2019 and construction lasted for the next 12 months (including a COVID shut down). In October of 2019, a loan of \$1.9M was approved with a maturity date of June 2045. In September 2020, we dedicated the renovated space to the glory of God and now, with faithful and generous giving, additional payments have saved Salem over \$1M in interest and at the end of March 2024 the debt of the mortgage was **PAID IN FULL** 20 years early! "Immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine!" All that remains is an internal loan to the Endowment Fund for \$200K which will be paid through the remaining pledge responses to the capital appeal and other contributions with the goal of growing a capital improvement fund to assist paying for future facility needs. It has truly been an amazing journey!

Give Thanks!

**Worship on Sunday,
May 19 at 8:15am**

On **Sunday, May 19**, the Day of Pentecost, we will formally "shred" the mortgage as an act of worship and thanks to God for the blessings Salem has received over these past several years. Thank you to committee co-chairs, Dick and Helene Peterson for their prayerful and dedicated leadership which inspired many to dream big and believe in the possibilities based on faith and hope in what God alone can accomplish. Thank you to the council, staff, committee leaders, and to

the countless volunteer and generous supporters who collectively embodied what it means to be part of a community of believers who envision opportunities to dream, work and serve together. The incredible response has opened opportunities for generations to come. So, we continue to dream, to work, to serve and to glorify God whose plan and purpose it is to inspire and renew faith for the sake of ministry possibilities now and in our future together.

I invite you to be present for this special Sunday service (**8:15 AM**) as we are "together in one place" to invite the Spirit's presence into our midst anew, giving thanks to God who has and continues to amaze us with generosity and faithfulness.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

-Ephesians 3:20-21

NEW SUMMER SERVICE TIME WORSHIP AT 9:15AM

SUNDAY, MAY 26 - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Fellowship time before worship at 8:15am-9:15am, followed by worship at 9:15am. Following worship, fellowship time at 10:15am-11:15am.

Spring Work Day, Saturday, April 27, 8am-noon

Please considering volunteering for Spring Work Day. 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 **Salem Churchmen president, Tim Hickey**. Rain date is planned for Saturday, May 4.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Pray for the Cure and More Than Pink Event

Please join breast cancer survivors on **Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 6:30pm for the 21st Annual Pray for the Cure at Salem**. Pray for the Cure is an ecumenical prayer service enhancing the breast cancer survivor's spiritual well-being in healing and recovery through special prayers and music. Prayer is so very important to our healing!

Salem's choir will share special music as well as Women of Vision with the Pray for the Cure theme, I WILL BELIEVE! Other survivors and healthcare professionals will also be participating.

MORE THAN PINK WALK

Mark your calendars and be sure to sign up for the Peoria More Than Pink Walk on **Saturday, May 11 on the Salem Lutheran Saints Team**. Watch for opportunities to sign up in the welcome center.

Circle Meeting Times

- Lydia Circle - Wednesday, May 8 at 2pm
- Rebecca Circle - Tuesday, May 14 at 10am



Craig Swenson, Senior Pastor
cswenson@salemofpeoria.com

Toni Greving
Office Coordinator
office@salemofpeoria.com

Meghan Peterson, Communications
mpeterson@salemofpeoria.com

Gretchen Petrakis,
Director of Sunday School
gpetrakis@salemofpeoria.com

Lori Reimer, Parish Nurse
lreimer@salemofpeoria.com

**Maggie Slotter, Director of Music
& Choir Director**
mslotter@salemofpeoria.com

The Bugle is published monthly for \$10 per year by Salem Lutheran Church, 1700 W. War Memorial Dr. Peoria, Illinois 61614-6724 phone: (309) 688-9212

Periodicals Postage Paid at Peoria, IL 61601

POSTMASTER:
Send Address Changes to:
Salem Lutheran Church,
1700 W. War Memorial Dr.,
Peoria, IL 61614-6724

**Bugle content for June 2024 due by
Tuesday, May 14.**

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

FAITH FORMATION

First Friday, May 3 at 6pm: Family Fun and Games!

First Fridays will end the year with a whole family celebration, full of fun and games. We will have many family friendly games for everyone to play and a "Nacho Bar" & "Popcorn Bar" for dinner and dessert. Please sign up at the Welcome Center, or by reaching out to Rebbecca Sipf (937) 408-9461.

Honoring High School Graduates on Sunday, May 12

On **Sunday, May 12** will honor Salem High School Graduates. Graduates (Carter Aprahamian, Henry Arnold, Conner Bidne, Sophia Doty, Ava Salverson) will be recognized during the 8:15am worship service and during fellowship time at 9:30am in the Social Hall. Please feel free to join us to congratulate them on all their accomplishments and wish them luck on their future endeavors. There will be a basket for each senior if you would like to bring a card.

Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School classes for this year is **Sunday, May 19**. There will be Sunday School classes as usual this day. This is also the day of Pentecost! The day the church celebrates the gift of Holy Spirit – God's gift of comfort, strength, and power given to God's people in all times!

On the day of Pentecost, we remember the disciples, filled with the Holy Spirit, proclaiming Jesus Christ crucified and risen from the dead. We give thanks that a crowd of people witnessed this and came to believe. We remember the three thousand people from all over the world were baptized and received the gift of the Spirit. We rejoice in remembering our own baptism.

The Holy Spirit's activity is creative and powerful. The Spirit was present in the beginning – at creation – hovering over the face of the waters. The Spirit came in power upon Israel's judges and kings, equipping them to accomplish great things for God's people. By the Spirit, the prophets spoke for God, proclaiming promises of hope and delivering judgement. The Holy Spirit came upon Christ – descending like a dove from the heavens at his baptism. Jesus promised his disciples that they would receive the Holy Spirit and that this Comforter and Helper would live with them and be with them forever. After his resurrection, Jesus gave his disciples the great commission, sending them out to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit and to teach them to obey everything I have commanded."

The Holy Spirit's activity goes on today! The Spirit gathers us together in worship. The Spirit prays for us when words fail us. The Spirit strengthens us in our doubts and fears. The Spirit gives us joy and peace even when we do not feel it. The Spirit sends us out into the world to be the light of Christ to all of God's creation!

Let's celebrate together in worship and in Sunday School classes this gift from God of the Holy Spirit!

Leadership Lab

So many summer opportunities: mission trips, Vacation Bible School, and confirmation camps are already filling the calendar. Why should Leadership Lab be a part of yours? **Lab is an opportunity for students to connect those feelings with faith, while learning leadership skills.**

Lab is a weeklong conference-style camp on **June 24 - June 29, 2024 at Augustana College** geared for students going into 10th grade through age 22 with two additional adult levels. Students engage in interactive, modern worship with the entire community group two times a day and attend three small group "LAB" sessions daily as well as enjoy meals and free time together. Most learning is small group based, designed to foster unity, friendship and trust as participants explore and grow in their own faith in Christ.

Contact Amy Schroeder (amy.angela.schroeder@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending. Registration is open now online at leadershiplab.net. Mark your calendar for 2025 Leadership Lab on June 23-28, 2025.

Blessings to Salem's High School Graduates!



Carter Aprahamian

Carter Aprahamian graduated from Dunlap High School. He will attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He plans to pursue a degree in chemical engineering. Carter is the son of Chuck and Melissa Aprahamian.

Henry Allen Arnold



Henry will graduate from Dunlap High School. He plans to attend Carthage College in the fall to study within the medical health care field. He will also play on the Carthage Men's Lacrosse team. Henry was a member of the varsity golf and boys lacrosse teams. He served as captain of the boys lacrosse for four years and was named to the All-Conference team. At Dunlap High School he participated in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, intramural basketball, Christian Center Basketball, and the fundraising Prom Fashion Show. Henry is also active at First English Lutheran church where his mother served as a pastor. Henry is the son of Chad and Heather Arnold.



Conner Bidne

Conner Bidne will graduate from Metamora Township High School on May 19, 2024. Throughout high school, he was involved in football, track, concert band/wind symphony and Boy Scouts. For his senior year on the football team, he was a varsity starting wide receiver and his team members voted for him to represent them as one of the team captains. He is a member of the National Honors Society. Conner plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in the fall to study civil engineering. Conner is the son of Matthew and Sarah Bidne.

Sophia Doty



Sophia Doty will graduate from the International Baccalaureate program at Richwoods High School on May 18, 2024. Sophia has been involved in soccer, cross country, serving as a team Captain, Spanish Club, track and the St. Jude Club. She is a member of the National Honors Society, a Sterling Merit Award recipient, and a Big 12 Scholar Athlete. She enjoys working at RC Outfitters, Tropical Sno and spending time with her friends. In the fall she will be attending Iowa State University studying Kinesiology. Sophia is the daughter of Chad and Julie Doty.



Ava Salverson

Ava Salverson will graduate from Dunlap High School May 19, 2024. Ava swam for Dunlap Girls Swim & Dive all four years of high school. She was a sectional champion and 3x IHSA State Qualifier. Ava was also named Journal Star Swimmer of the Year twice. She is involved in Interact Club and National Honor Society. She is on the high honor roll, Sterling Merit Award recipient, and an Illinois State Scholar. Ava currently swims and coaches for Peoria Area Water Wizards. Ava will be attending the University of Wyoming in the fall. She is committed to swim and will be studying animal science. Ava is the daughter of Brent and Sandy Salverson.

Cross-Generational Vacation Bible School: Operation Restoration

Monday, June 24 - Thursday, June 27, from 5:30pm-7:30pm

Summer is around the corner, and here at Salem Lutheran Church plans are underway for an exciting Vacation Bible School (VBS) experience. Vacation Bible School 2024 Operation Restoration needs your help!

Operation Restoration is a cross-generational Vacation Bible School that invites participants to be menders in God's world. All generations can come together this summer to participate in faith formation activities together. Come help others make connections between Bible stories and mending actions. Discover simple ways to live out faith in daily life.

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

It takes a great number of adult and student volunteers to provide Vacation Bible School to a large community event. Youth and adults are encouraged to invite a friend to help you help at Vacation Bible School.

Emily Jolliff and Jeanne Setterlund, Co-Directors of Vacation Bible School, are ready to help guide you through every step of your volunteer experience at Vacation Bible School. There are jobs of all sizes - every volunteer matters! Interested in volunteering, please contact Emily Jolliff at (309) 712-4979 or Jeanne Setterlund at (309) 369-1991 or register online at www.salemofpeoria.com/vbs-2024



SCAN HERE
TO VOLUNTEER



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER

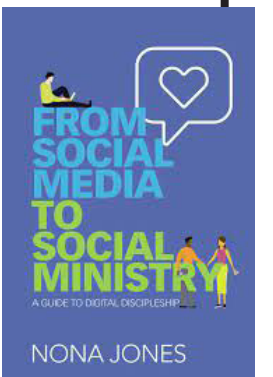
Salem Book Club, May 22

Salem's Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, May 22 at 7:30pm-8:30pm on Zoom**. The book this month is "From Social Media to Social Ministry" by Nora Jones.

Nona Jones is an international speaker, preacher, author, and the head of global faith-based partnerships at Facebook. Previously, Nona held executive leadership roles across the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. A graduate of the Presidential Leadership Scholars Program, Nona was named one of Essence magazine's Under 40 Women to Watch. Nona and her husband lead a church together in Gainesville, Florida.

About the book: There are more than 2.3 billion professing Christians in the world and more and more new churches launching globally, yet statistics show that in-person church attendance is declining or plateauing in every nation. Although social technology has been around for more than two decades, church leaders have long bristled at the idea of church online, ranking it as the last concern on their minds in Barna's 2020 state of the church report published February 3, 2020. And then, three weeks later, COVID-19 closed the doors of every church on earth and suddenly forced them entirely online.

Nona Jones, a globally acclaimed thought leader on leveraging technology for ministry, had been leading a movement and sounding the alarm for several years to make digital discipleship a central part of every church's ministry approach. In "From Social Media to Social Ministry," she outlines her digital discipleship principles and provides practical instruction for how to do it no matter how big or small a local church may be. There are plenty of books to help churches build a social media strategy, but this is the first book of its kind that goes beyond digital marketing to digital ministry.



Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Serving Opportunity on Wed, May 29 from 9am-11am

This project will be instrumental to helping Midwest Food Bank reduce hunger in our community. Please register online to volunteer at: <https://portal.goldenvolunteer.com/timeslots/KMWigaHP0t> (link will also be in the Bugle Blast.) If interested in this service opportunity, please register in advance and plan to meet at the Peoria Division (9005 N Industrial Rd, Peoria, 61615) at **9am on Wednesday, May 29.**

Outreach and Endowment Benevolence

- Thank you for helping us bring the hope of the resurrection to those who have not heard with the gift of \$750.00 to Luke and Jamie Ulrich from Global Team. - Curtis Chanda International Director of Global Teams
 - Thank you for your gift of \$1,862.58 to Marion Medical Mission Well Program. Marion Medical Mission will use 100% of your donation as designated. Marion Medical Mission is different. It is different because we have come together as God's people; because of what we do together. WE are involved in the IMPOSSIBLE!
- MMM's Well Program utilizes the talents of the Africans. Subsistence farmers make the Mark V galvanized steel pumps, the PVS foot-valved and plungers and build the wells. A Marion Medical Mission well is one the extreme rural poor know how to maintain and one they can afford to maintain. When we pray, we move our feet! Uchinfami Kwa Chiuta (Glory be to God) -Tom Logan, President
- Thank you for your generous support and your passion to share the gospel by your donation to Salih and Jocette Aribeyi with CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ International) . Thank you for your gift that helps reach people for Christ!
 - Thank you to the members of Salem Lutheran Church from the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. In grateful giving \$42,998 for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE, LORI REIMER

Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer or blood disorders. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Have you ever thought about donating blood or wondered what happens to it once you do. There are several steps from you donating to a patient in need receiving it.

- **Donation:** You complete a health history and screening. Your blood and several test tubes of blood are collected then labeled and put on ice until taken to the Red Cross center for processing.
- **Processing:** Most whole blood is separated into red cells, platelets, and plasma. Further processing of each of these is completed so each unit can be used in specific ways for each patient receiving it. Test tubes are sent to the lab for testing.
- **Testing:** Dozens of tests are performed from the test tubes collected. If there is a positive test result, your blood will be discarded, and you will be notified.
- **Storage:** Red cells are stored in refrigeration for up to 42 days. Platelets are stored in an agitator at room temperature for 5 days. Plasma is frozen and can be stored for up to one year.
- **Distribution:** While hospitals do keep some available on their shelves, blood is available to be shipped from the Red Cross 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **Transfusion:** Your blood will be transfused to a patient when a physician determines the specific need.

Salem's next blood drive is **May 20, 2024 from 1pm to 6pm.** Start the process and be a part of the donation step as you never know when you, a loved one, or even a complete stranger may be in need of a transfusion. To sign up to donate, stop by the Welcome Center or contact Lori Reimer.

Thank You!

- Thank you for my Easter sack. – Ron Hipple
- Dear Salem Friends and Salem Sunday School Children,
Thank you for being a Blessing to me this Easter through your cards, loving messages giving me new hope and joy and Easter treats, delivered by Paula Sydow. May you too be filled with the Peace and Presence of our Risen Lord in all your days. He is Risen indeed! Alleluia... Blessings, Bea Kent
- Thank you so much for the Easter greetings from our Salem family and for the lovely decorated bags and treats from the Sunday School classes. We so appreciate you all. Blessings – Clarence and Lois Knutson
- Thank you for the Easter gift bag. It makes me feel so good.– Wanita Van Scoyoc

Condolences - Marty Plunkett

Prayers are requested for the family and friends of Marty Plunkett who joined the church triumphant on March 21, 2024. May the Lord comfort all those who mourn. A memorial service was held Saturday, April 6, 2024 at Salem Lutheran Church.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS! MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1

Karla Wegrzyn

May 3

Carter Aprahamian
Tracy Daugherty
Theresa Gustafson
Karen Huxtable

May 7

Bradley Mangan
Lana Pasco

May 8

Tim Hickey
Pam Machacek
Deb Sanders
Richard Thompson

May 9

Calvin Janssen

May 10

Jennifer Gallas
Lori Reimer

May 12

Collin Swanson

May 14

Janet Saylor

May 15

Florence Clark
Helen Reschenberg

May 16

Helen Buerger

May 17

Marilyn Setterlund
Claire Zapf

May 19

Arlan Maier

May 21

Magdalene Sipf

May 23

Jason Lantz

May 24

Lindsey Janco
Jeff Neltner

May 25

Ronald Hipple
Brenna Salverson
Eric Schroeder

May 26

June Janssen

May 27

Sue Colloton
Kayla Steele
Nadine Willems

May 28

Charles
Aprahamian
Larry Kotewa
Paul O'Connor

May 29

Carol McGregor

May 31

Micah Thompson

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Salem's growing ministry

DIRECTION...

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

PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- The men and women of our armed forces
- Support for all caregivers when loved ones suffer
- Individuals suffering from depression
- Ulrich family in Malawi
- Jocette and Salih Aribeyi

missionaries through CRU

- Pat Arehart
- Families at Crittenton Center
- Midwest Food Bank
- Luan Borquist
- Butch Conard
- Crystal Grabel
- Ron Hipple
- Carolyn Noe
- Jeff Olsen and family
- Sally Olsen and family
- Tim, Jessica, Daniel Peterson
- Linda Peterson
- Rosy Park
- Phyllis
- friends and family of Marty Plunkett

- Donita Lynn Purcell
- the family of Jim Schlatter
- Jim
- Debi Smith
- Jason Sterr
- friends and family of Fran Tinkham
- Brant Wegrzyn

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY...

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

The Bugle
USPS 477-460



NEW SUMMER SERVICE TIME

WORSHIP AT 9:15_{AM}

SUNDAY, MAY 26 - SUNDAY, SEPT 1

Fellowship time (conversation, coffee, cookies and fruit) will be on the quarter hour before and after worship.