

# the Bugle

**I**njoy all seasons of the year. Spring is a season of hope and anticipation after the cold and barren winter. The ground warms and there are many signs and wonders of new life all around. Summer is a time for longer daylight hours, warm summer evenings, time for late evening walks and early morning sunrises. Autumn is a time for changing colors, maturing produce and anticipation of a bountiful harvest followed by longer, colder nights of winter and the pattern returns yet again. The ebb and flow of life give definition to patterns for me, and I marvel at the mystery and wonder of God's divine creation.



The liturgical pattern of the church is just as marvelous and mysterious as we move through the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and around again. As November comes to a close, so does another liturgical year. For the most part, we have been focused on the gospel of Mark, the oldest of all the gospels. Everything has an urgency in Mark as he moves us along with the words "immediately." Mark has no reference to the infant or boy Jesus, but starts with Jesus's baptism and the calling of the disciples and not long into the story Jesus describes his purpose to die and rise.

December 1 starts a new year, one that focuses on the third book of the New Testament. We will hear of Zachariah and Elizabeth, the parents of John the Baptist. We will hear again the story of Mary and Joseph and journey with them to Bethlehem, and wonder with great joy and anticipation of that first Christmas miracle and subsequent wonders of Jesus that follow.

As we conclude one year and anticipate the next, I encourage you to make an effort to re-read Mark's gospel. Absorb it and marvel at what it reveals about Jesus and his love for the world. What difference does it make for you and for your life of faith? Or does it? Then take a few days/evenings to read Luke and prepare for what is yet to come. How are these stories different? Which one resonates more clearly for you? These are God's words intended for our good. Can you hear the voice of God bringing these stories to life in your heart?

Many of us have favorite seasons for different reasons, so there are favorite stories of God's divine love through Jesus that speak to our hearts. Jot them down. Ask questions. Read different translations. Make an effort to regularly spend time in God's word. It is not always easy, often mysterious and even confusing but that's okay. God will reveal what we need, when we need it and inspire us to ponder and savor the mystery together.

- Pastor Craig

## FOR ALL THE SAINTS

### THOSE REMEMBERED THIS YEAR.

Lori Reimer, Carl Buerger, Jr., Kenneth Bundren, Carolyn Noe, Rosey Park, Viola Gruber, Martha Plunkett, Sandra Mills, Jocyle Nolde



## Veterans Day Celebration, Nov. 10

What do you think of when you hear or read about Veterans Day? Do thoughts of parades, red poppies, young people in marching bands, rifle salutes or granite memorials in the town square come to mind? Veterans Day is a day honoring military veterans both living and deceased who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The end of World War I is traditionally celebrated as the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 and was titled Armistice Day. It was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 and currently is observed annually on November 11 as a federal holiday.

The holiday is spelled Veterans Day, not Veteran's or Veteran's Day "because it is not a day that 'belongs' to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans".

Please join us on **Sunday, November 10** as we honor and celebrate Salem Veterans. We will have a slideshow, photos and refreshments.

## Christmas Greetings

Let our members know they're remembered by providing a cheery greeting for their Thinking of You bags! You may bring cards from **Sunday, November 24 through Sunday, December 15**. The names of people to be remembered are:

**Lynn and Ed Akers, Kay Bartholomew, Nancy Bastian, Betty and Matthew Bennett, Alf Berg, Ruth Bock, Helen Buerger, Sue Colloton, Dolly Conley (Ruth Bock's sister), Marty and Joan Creager, Velma Crowley, John Day, MaryAlice Erickson, Ron Hipple, Janet Jones, Bea Kent, Carol Love, Arlan Maier, Suzanne McMickle, Bob Middleton, JoAnn and Paul Misselhorn, Henry Noe, Kay Peterson, Linda Peterson, Jan Saylor, Marilyn Setterlund, Phyllis Shadley, Marilyn Smith, Fred Stamerjohn, Wanita Van Scoyoc**

The bags will be located outside of the Social Hall through **December 15**. If you want to deliver these greetings, please sign-up at the Welcome Center. Bags will be available for delivery on **Monday, December 16**. These Christmas greetings are sure to be cherished!

## Salem Women's Circles

- Rebecca Circle will meet at Salem on **Tuesday, Nov 12 at 10am**.
- Lydia Circle will meet on **Wednesday, Nov 13 at 2pm** in the conference room at Salem.



**Craig Swenson, Senior Pastor**  
*cswenson@salemofpeoria.com*

**Theresa Bowlan, Director of Communications & Public Relations**  
*tbowlan@salemofpeoria.com*

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**Pastoral Emergency Number:**  
In case of emergency,  
please call:  
Pastor Craig: 309-258-4759

## Celebration Sunday

Pledge responses will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 24**. In an effort to prepare for that celebration, pledge responses are requested to be returned by **November 17** either to the office or received in a box in the Narthex beginning November 3.



## Thanksgiving Dinner

**On Wednesday, November 20 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.

### 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.**

## CONDOLENCES - LORI REIMER & CAROLYN NOE

We invite you to join us in offering prayers for the friends and family of Lori Reimer and Carolyn Noe during this difficult time. May the Lord grant them strength and envelop them in His love and comforting presence.

We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Lori Reimer for her dedicated service as our Parish Nurse. Recently, memorial services were held at Salem Lutheran Church to honor their lives and contributions.

## November 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.**



## 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 **Thursday, November 21 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/LN118tCDuq>

## Noisy Can Offering

Marian Medical Missions - **how much received** from October. Salem will still be accepting gifts through the end of October. - On **November 10** - Noisy Can offering will be received for ELCA World Hunger. More than 820 million people - that's about 11 percent of people in our world today - are hungry. ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

## 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).

### THANK YOU

"Thank you so much for your generous donation to Midwest Food Bank. We are committed to use it wisely as we work to alleviate hunger and provide relief from disaster." *Blessings – Christa Staley, Executive Director of Midwest Food Bank, NFP – Illinois-Peoria*

"Thank you for your gift of \$1,560 to ELCA World Hunger. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries, including the United States. It provides access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, and education and it advances peace and justice. Through your gifts, you join the whole church in working toward a just world where all are fed. Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you." *In Christ, Amanda White, Director, Congregational Generosity*

## BREAKING BREAD

### Cross-Generational Midweek Meal & Fellowship

Midweek meal and fellowship for all ages! Let Salem cooks prepare a meal for your family! We'll gather from **5:45pm-7pm on Wednesday** to enjoy a meal, music, and meaningful table conversations at the four-week gathering series.



**Thankful for Family & Friends**  
Bring a friend night



**National Kindness Day**  
Make kindness cards

## Outreach Task Group

Are you interested in exploring Salem's role in outreach ministry and how we engage with the community outside of our congregation through invitation and service? If so, then the Salem Council would like to invite you to join the Outreach Ministry Task Group. As expressed in Salem's mission statement, we are called, as followers of Jesus, to "reach out" and share God's love, mercy, and grace with one another in both word and deed.



At the end of 2023, Salem found itself without an outreach ministry team that could guide Salem's outreach ministry and help coordinate its planning and implementation. This is not an unusual situation for a church as changes inevitably happen when individuals step down from leadership positions and team members move on to serve in other ministries. However, it was determined by an exploratory task group, and the Salem Council, that outreaching ministry is vital to who we are as the Church, and that Salem should seek to find a way to continue this ministry work in the future. Therefore, two recommendations were made by the exploratory task group to the Salem council. The first was to create an interim outreach ministry team that will support outreaching ministry work during the coming year, so that we continue serving locally and globally. This interim outreach team has already begun meeting and is led by Council member, Emily Jolliff. This group is currently offering oversight to Salem's outreach ministry, and they are open to new ideas and possible projects. The second recommendation from the exploratory task group was to create a task group that would examine our long-term focus for outreach ministry and look for a way to ensure its planning and implementation is sustained in the months and years ahead.



## Calling for Volunteers!

So, this is where you come in! We are calling for volunteers to serve on an outreach task group that will help to find a plan for ensuring long-term vitality and viability for Salem's outreach ministry. This task group will begin meeting in January via zoom and will plan to complete its work by the end of February. Meeting sessions will be held in the evenings and will be approximately 1 ½ hours. The task group will plan to meet 3-4 times during this time period and will discuss the following topics: What is the purpose of Salem's outreach ministry? What is Salem's outreach focus in the next 3-5 years? What is the best organizational structure for planning and implementation that provides consistency and continuity for our outreach ministry with regard to the resources we have available?

Help us continue to be a church that serves our local and global community. If you are interested in serving on this task group in January or would just like to find out more specific information about our plans, please contact Kelly Brinkman, or the church office. Thank you for prayerfully considering God's call to this vital work.

# Lessons and Carols

Join us at Salem Lutheran Church to celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season with Lessons & Carols on December 8 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 our Peoria community.



## Interested in participating?

All event rehearsals for Bell Choir 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 from **December 1 – December 8** 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, pajama sets, separate pajama tops and bottoms, footies/warm socks, skid-free slippers/socks, mittens, gloves, winter hats, scarves, cardigan sweaters, sweatpants, & sweatshirts.**

We will accept donations in all sizes, from infant – 4X.

Items will be collected in the Atrium from December 1st 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 8.

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 your friends!

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 and join us for this immersive Advent activity on Sunday, December 8 at 3pm!



## 30 Days of Thankfulness

The Salem youth want to give back to our Salem community. So for the month of November, we will be participating in 30 Days of Thankfulness! On selected days our youth will be available for help with household chores, yard work, tech help, companionship or a variety of other helpful activities. If you would like assistance from couple youth members, please visit the welcome center to fill out a form or call Rebbecca Sifp at 937-408-9461 (after 4pm on weekdays). Our youth are happy to complete these activities free of charge, but if you would like to make a free will donation to future youth activities you are welcome to do so!



## ELCA National Youth Gathering Review

Participants of the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans will be sharing their experiences during fellowship time on **Sunday, November 3.**

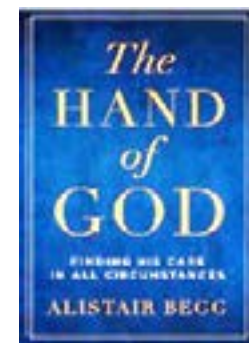


## Salem Library

**The Hand of God: Finding His Care in all Circumstances** by Alistair Begg (222 BEG)

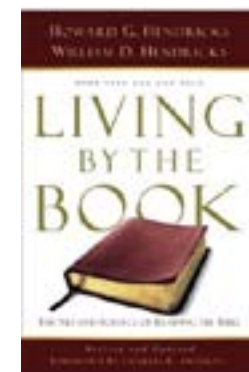
Few stories declare the theme of God's protection and care more powerfully than the Bible's account of Joseph, son of Jacob. As Begg walks us through the dramatic events of Joseph's life, he invites us to rejoice in God's sovereignty and providential care.

So take comfort, weary traveler, and read on. Soon, you'll pack up the baggage of your past, the fears of your present, and the prospects of your future and entrust them into the hand of the God who works all things for the good of those who love Him.



**Living by the Book: The Art and Science of Reading the Bible** by Howard G. Hendricks, William D. Hendricks (220.07 HEN)

For every person who draws strength and direction from the Bible, there are many more who struggle with it. Some call it a long book with fine print and obscure meaning. Some call it a mystery, a chore to read, or an undecipherable puzzle. The good news is you can easily solve this problem. With over 300,000 sold, this revised and expanded edition of Living by the Book will remove the barriers that keep Scripture from transforming your life. In a simple, step-by-step fashion, the authors explain how to glean truth from Scripture. It is practical, readable, and applicable. By following its easy-to-apply principles, you'll soon find yourself drawing great nourishment from the Word—and enjoying the process!



To access and view the library collection ([saalemofpeoria.com](http://saalemofpeoria.com)), look for the Learn tab, click on Salem Lutheran Library, click again on Library Catalog and scroll through the online collection. Or search, ([saalemofpeoria.com/salem-lutheran-library](http://saalemofpeoria.com/salem-lutheran-library)).

Questions? Please contact Karen Swenson at 309-258-5708 or at [klswen@hotmail.com](mailto:klswen@hotmail.com)

## Thank you, Salem Family!

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities and experience I have had during my eight years at Salem Lutheran Church. I have learned so much and developed valuable skills and relationships that I will carry throughout my career. Thank you for the support and guidance you have provided me during my time at Salem Lutheran Church. I wish the church and my colleagues continued prayers and support.

Blessings, Meghan Peterson

## Welcome

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Meghan Peterson for her outstanding contributions at Salem Lutheran Church. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors!

At the same time, we are thrilled to welcome Theresa Bowlan as our new Director of Communications and Public Relations. With 17 years of experience in Marketing, Public Relations, and Graphic Design, Theresa brings a wealth of knowledge to our team. She is a wife to Brandan, a proud mother of two—Brady (13) & Penny (9)—and is eager to continue Meghan's legacy. Please don't hesitate to reach out to her for any communication needs!



*Pictured from left: Brady, Theresa, Brandan & Penny*



## 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).**

## Wine Tasting and Musical Fun – For LSSI

Enjoy a Wine Tasting for adults (age 21 and above) at Mackinaw Valley Winery, at 2 pm on Sunday, November 10, 2024. You'll taste how Award-Winning Mackinaw Valley Vineyard wines and play some musical games like "Name that Tune" and maybe even try to 'stump the piano player" with some NEW tune ideas.

Door Prizes, fun and fellowship, and a light supper follow. Also, a Silent Auction and Raffle of donated items. Relax with live piano music by Don Bauer.

Enjoy the picturesque scenery and explore the winery and vineyards. Additional Wines, Cheeses and Gourmet Chocolates may be purchased.

Tickets are \$30 per person (write your checks payable to Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria) Proceeds will go to the LSSI Children's Community Services program.

**ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED!** To get yours, mail a check and your Email address to: Pepper Bauer, 5220 S. Cameron Lane, Mapleton IL 61547. We will send you an Email receipt, and your tickets, or hold your tickets for you at the door. We need your reservations by October 15.

Questions? Call Pepper at Home, (309) 697-5762, Cell (309) 657-5726, or Email: pepperbauer@att.net



## 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 2024 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, 2024, in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2024. Checks that are placed in the church offering on the first Sunday of 2025 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2024, even if the check is pre-dated to 2024 or was actually written in 2024. However, checks that are written, mailed and post-marked in 2024 will be deductible in 2024 though they are not received by a church until 2025." Thank you for keeping these things in mind as you plan your giving.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Salem's mission

### DIRECTION...

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

### PRAYERS REQUESTS...

- Jocette and Salih Arbeyi missionaries through CRU
- Prayers of thanksgiving for Tyler Blum
- Luan Borquist
- Butch Conard

- Joanie Creager
- Ron Hipple
- Maddy, friend of Julia Wallstedt recovering from a liver transplant
- Mike
- Helene Peterson
- Tim, Jessica, Daniel Peterson
- Linda Peterson
- the family of Carolyn Noe
- Lori Reimer
- Sheryl Sattler

### 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





## Thank you!

S'more thank you's to Laura Hartman for hosting the Congregational Campfire and Cook-out.

## OFFICE COORDINATOR NEEDED

Salem seeks an Office Coordinator for designated office hours to embody the vision and mission of Salem Lutheran Church by providing administrative support for the rostered and lay staff, congregational members and guests. The ideal candidate will play a central role in ensuring effective ministry functions, providing support to staff, and managing various administrative tasks. The Office Coordinator role is responsible for overseeing daily office functions and contributing to the overall efficiency of ministry efforts. A liturgical church background is helpful but not required. A Job Description is available upon request. Please inquire with Pastor Craig.