

y favorite story of stewardship was shared with me by Marge about her father and his generosity toward his church. Marge grew up on a farm near Flanagan, Illinois. Her family was deeply rooted in the life of St. Petri, a large brick faced church on the edge of a farm field with a cemetery for the departed saints close by. Each year, members of the board of trustees would visit members asking for their pledge of support for the coming year. Then, in the fall, after harvest, these same men came around again to collect what was pledged. When trustees came to visit Marge's father, he patiently listened to the needs and hopes for St. Petri and the solicitation for financial support for the coming year. When the trustee was about to leave, Marge's father said, "when you come back after harvest, don't bring a bushel basket. Bring a wagon." A real testament to 2 Corinthians 9:6. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." Marge said this witness made a deep impression on her life and helped shape her attitude about first fruits giving. Her story had the same impact on me and my attitude about generosity.

Salem has a similar story, one of generosity and faithfulness. We no longer send trustees out to ask for harvest giving, but we do send letters and pledge cards encouraging generous and faithful sharing in the ongoing work of Christ's church. For whatever gift you pledge in support and as a witness of faith, thank you. I pray your generosity creates a heart filled with joy and thanksgiving. Pledges will be received throughout November but especially celebrated **November 23** in worship.

Thank you for sharing in Christ's mission work together.



# THIS MONTH For All the Saints 2 Fair Trade 2 Thanksgiving Dinner 3 Breaking Bread Schedule 4 November Birthdays 4 Faith Formation 5 Outreach Ministry 7





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# FOR ALL THE SAINTS

### THOSE REMEMBERED THIS YEAR

• Betty Bennett

• Kurt Oehlwein

- Cloyd Conard
- Velma Crowley
- Ronald Hipple
- Carole Love
- Suzanne McMickle
- JoAnn Misselhorn
- Fred Stamerjohn



# **CARING COOKS**

Are you someone who likes to cook? Have you been looking for a way to get more involved at Salem? Caring Cooks might be just the ministry opportunity you have been looking for. The goal of Caring Cooks is to come together once a quarter to prepare and freeze a variety of meals, including the ingredients and cooking instructions so when a Salem member, family member or friend needs a meal or multiple meals (think new baby, surgery, long recovery or just a bit of love and caring) we are ready to help out!! If you would like to learn more about Caring Cooks please join us for a brief informational meeting on Sunday Nov. 2nd immediately following coffee hour and Sunday School at 11:30am. If you have questions please reach out to Gayle Young. Happy Cooking!!

# **WOMEN'S CIRCLES**

# **REBECCA CIRCLE**

Tuesday, **November 11**th at 10:00 AM

# LYDIA CIRCLE

Wednesday, **November 12**th at 1:00 PM

# **FAIR TRADE SALE**

# November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Fair Trade items will be available for purchase on Sunday, Sunday,

November 2nd after worship.

If you are in need of items, you are welcome to contact:

# **Jennifer Gallas**

(309) 256-5862 pew117@aol.com





On Wednesday, November 19th at 5:30pm at Salem's Thanksgiving dinner turkey, dressing, sides, and dessert will all be provided. A freewill offering will be taken to purchase 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 K — 4 students. 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 gift cards for families in need, Salem members volunteer in the classroom, provide items for Teacher Appreciation treats, and provide outreach benevolence.

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.

# FAITH FORMATION

# Birthday blessings!

NOV 1

Ron Breidel Darin McElfresh

**NOV 2**Randolph Middleton

NOV 3

Mark Janco Sarah Miltenberger Erin Schmitt Linda Wragge

NOV 4

Audrey Nelson

NOV 5

Kris Griffith Lois Knutson Suzanne Neltner Jacqueline Stork

NOV 6

Richard Serrahn

NOV 7

Jennifer Consigny Matthew Grimm David Sterr Nathan Wiesehan

NOV 8

Evan Lott

NOV 9

Tiemo Courtney Lachlan Kelly Alivia Sansale

**NOV 10**Jennifer Gregg

NOV 12 Alf Berg Tyler Blum Benjamin Uphoff Julia Wallstedt

NOV 14

Jenny Hitzeroth Michelle Sutton

NOV 15

Nicholas Manning Peyton Manning Grant Sassi

NOV 16

Chad Doty Mickayla Hughbanks Barbara Ricketts

**NOV 17** 

Amy Kalbacken Kirsten Kelly Janice Murray

**NOV 19** 

Lori Arehart Emily Ferrell Bryant Onyun

**NOV 20** 

Susan Faulkner

**NOV 21** 

Isabel Gonzales Teresa Nelson

NOV 22

Jerome Sokolowski

**NOV 23** 

Lynette Christensen Dennis Thomasson

NOV 24

Andrew Ferrell Emm Uphoff



NOV 25

Megan Faulkner Heather Hopkins

NOV 26

Catherine Setterlund

NOV 27

Kathryn Cowser Martin Creager Gary Johnson Aaron Kotewa Harper Wowra

NOV 28

Erik Geick

**November 5th** We are Thankful - Chicken Tetrazzini, Green Beans Salad and dessert - 5:45pm

**BREAKING BREAD** 

**NOVEMBER** 

**WE ARE THANKFUL** 

November 12th On Wednesday Nov. 12th our Breaking Bread family meal and program will honor our Salem veterans. All veterans and their families are invited for a special dinner and a chance for us to thank you for your service. Our menu will include Fried Chicken, macaroni and cheese, vegetable, salad and dessert. Please sign up in the welcome center or by email to Gayle Young at gyoung 9194@ gmail.com. Please join us for this special evening! - 5:45pm

**November 19th** Salem Church Wide Thanksgiving Dinner, Turkey, stuffing and all the trimmings- 5:30pm

Please sign up at the welcome center or contact Gayle Young gyoung9194@gmail.com

# FAITH FORMATION

# REFLECTIONS ON THE WORDS OF OUR WORSHIP MUSIC

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITY – SUNDAY, NOV. 2ND AT 10:15 A.M.

In taking time to carefully pay attention to what we sing each Sunday in our hymns, we can discover a treasure trove about our Lutheran theology. What are the words we are singing really conveying? What images do these melodic phrases awaken in our imagination as we are praising God? How are we the body of Christ? What do we hear about the Triune God? What are we passing on to future generations? What we sing, as an assembly, each Sunday matters! Each Sunday, as we gather in buildings all around the world, we believe that through the power of the Holy Spirit we are united as the Body of Christ, together throughout time and space. What a powerful statement of faith!

Martin Luther defined church as "the assembly of all believers among whom the gospel is purely preached, and the holy sacraments are administered according to the gospel." From the beginning of the Lutheran movement, assembly song was an immensely important component of worship. Let's take a closer look at a few of the hymns in our hymnal and see what we can discover about our faith.

Join us in the Faith Chapel (in the sanctuary) on Sunday, Nov. 2nd at 10:15a.m. for this discussion led by Gretchen Petrakis. Gretchen is the Director of Children's Faith Formation here at Salem and currently taking classes at Wartburg Theological Seminary. We look forward to having her share insights from her studies!

# FAITH FORMATION

# **YOUNG ADULTS**

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# **SALEM YOUNG ADULTS UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 4 | Young Adult Gathering | 7-9pm

· Put your trivia knowledge to the test with Trivia Night at Olympia in Peoria!

November 18th | Young Adult Gathering | 6-8pm

· This week we'll gather at Salem for a conversation on what it means to be church! We will be using Brewed Theology to guide our conversation together!

# **OUAKE**

### YOUTH ENCOUNTERING THE GOSPEL

Are you someone who likes water parks? Do you love being in community with other people of faith? Do you love growing in your faith through Bible studies, workshops, and upbeat worship? Well.... this event is for you!

Calling all 6th-12th grade students! On February 13th-15th, Quake is happening at the Wisconsin Dells! Quake is a weekend retreat that happens in a hotel with other youth groups from across the country. The weekend is filled with large group worship, Bible studies, workshops, games, water parks, and most importantly, Jesus! Quake encourages teens to become established in their faith, empowered for Christian living, and enabled to live a life of ministry and leadership.

The cost for Quake is \$50 per participant. If you are interested in attending Quake this year, permissions slips can be found at the Welcome table. To confirm your attendance, please return the permission slip with the \$50 cost by November 2nd. Registrations can be accepted after this date, but the early bird rate for Quake ends on November 13th. Please prioritize turning in permission slips and deposits sooner rather than later!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Director of Youth, Kaitlyn, at kjedrzejowski@ salemofpeoria.com.

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# PRAYER REQUESTS

# **CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:**

- Dennis Rhoades
- Luan Borquist
- Joanie Creager
- Maddy, friend of Julia Wallstedt
- Mike
- Tim, Jessica, Daniel Peterson
- Linda Peterson

- Shervl Sattler
- Jocette and Salih Arbeyi
- (missionaries through CRU)
- Tim Walters
- Greg Gebhards
- Thelma Neal
- Sally Smith

### PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

- Ian Borquist
- Gibson Gonzalez
- Emily Graff
- Barry Joyce
- Talon Maki
- Greg Miller
- Ashley Owen (deployed)
- Lucas Owen
- Jim Sterling
- Jason Sterr

# WORSHIP

# **LESSONS AND CAROLS**

### **DECEMBER 7TH**

Join us at Salem Lutheran Church to celebrate the beginning of the Advent Season with Lessons & Carols on **December 7 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 **November 23rd** until the event, **December 7th**. 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 7**.

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 7 at 3pm**!

# **OUTREACH MINISTRY**

# LSSI PROJECT ROOM AT THE INN FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING

Our congregation is partnering with LSSI to provide gifts for thirty children in foster care this holiday season through Project Room at the Inn. Your support will provide a Christmas gift to a child in the Peoria area who may otherwise go without.

Gift tags will be available starting **Sunday November 2** at (lobby, church office, etc.) with the name and age of a child in care, and a suggested gift item worth about \$35-40 dollars. If you choose a gift tag, please bring the item unwrapped, with the tag attached, back to the (lobby, church office, etc.) by Sunday November 30. The gifts will be delivered to LSSI's Peoria Foster Care office soon after that. Foster parents will be asked to wrap the presents for the children in their care. Wrapping materials can be donated as desired.

If you choose to make a financial donation to support Project Room at the Inn, please visit <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/projectroomattheinn2025">https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/projectroomattheinn2025</a>

# **Collection for Cuddles with Kindness**

Just a reminder that donations of new stuffed animals, with the tags on, for the cuddles with Kindness organization continue to be welcome. You will find a collection tub labeled "cuddles with Kindness" in the youth room on the third floor. Thanks so much for your support of this ministry that means so much to children in our area. For more information about Cuddles with Kindness, check out: https://www.cuddleswithkindness.org/

# THANK YOU VETERANS

Please join us on **Sunday**, **November 9** for Salem's celebration of Veterans Day. Following the 9:00 Service cookies, fruit and beverages will be available in the Social Hall. There will be displays of photos of our Salem family, including those currently serving. Also there will be pamphlets from the VA and our local Peoria County Veterans Assistance Commission describing available programs and services. Please encourage family, friends and neighbors to join us, visitors are always welcome.

Don't forget about the Greater Peoria Honor Flight organization, they have recently added a fifth flight for 2025 scheduled for **November 4**. The 2026 flight schedule has not been announced yet, check the website for future dates at www. greaterpeoriahonorflight.org. You are also able to register to be a member of a flight either as a Veteran or as a Guardian.

Ashley Owen: Please consider sending a Veterans Day card to Ashley who is deployed to Iraq for approximately one year. A card from you or the Men's group or a Church Circle or a Sunday School group would be extra special when you are far away from home and family.



Her address is:

OWEN, ASHLEY COMMANDANTS CELL UPR 94504 APO AE 09305

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST | 8:00 AM - NOON

Both men and women are encouraged to sign up at the Welcome Center. In addition to outdoor projects (weather permitting), we'll also be cleaning and organizing inside the sanctuary — and that work will take place rain or shine!

For more information, contact Jeff Machacek at jmachacek07@comcast.net

Come lend a hand as we care for our church grounds and worship space together.