

Salem United Church Of Christ  
217 Salem Drive  
Plymouth, WI 53073

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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CUSTODIAN: Pietje Markus

*CHAPEL CHIMES* IS A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF  
SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: salemuc@excel.net - WEB SITE: www.salemuccplywi.org  
TELEPHONE: 920-892-7456/Rev. Hoppert's Cell 920-838-0405

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST MISSION STATEMENT

*To praise and glorify God through Jesus Christ, Salem United Church of Christ will be a nurturing family that shares the Good News with people of all ages. Our congregation will invite and warmly welcome others into this faith community. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we will create and maintain places and programs, which satisfy needs and nurture spiritual growth while recognizing and utilizing the diverse gifts and talents of all.*

March 2016  
Volume 66 No. 3

# **FIRST NOTES**

“When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face towards Jerusalem.”  
Luke 9:51

The gospel that we follow this year throughout most of the Lenten season is Luke’s. Luke reminds us that Jesus has set his face towards Jerusalem and that nothing would stop him on destination. Jesus knew that preaching the good news of God’s coming Reign would put him on a collision course with the powers that be in Jerusalem. The values and priorities of God’s Reign stand in sharp contrast to the powers that be, and those in power will arrest him, subject him to trial, and put him to death.

Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday forces the people of Jerusalem – and us, by extension – to either recognize the moment of our redemption or not. Unfortunately, we see parts of ourselves in many of the main characters of Holy Week. We see in ourselves the failure of Jerusalem to appreciate the moment of salvation. We see in ourselves the fear and suspicion of the temple authorities, the cowardice of a Simon Peter, and the treachery of a Judas Iscariot. We confront all of this about ourselves before we can truly appreciate the renewal and redemption of Easter Sunday.

Holy Week is a time of high drama and we experience the impact of that drama best by participating in at least one other service between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. I strongly encourage you to be a part of those weekday services during Holy Week, so that your experience of Holy Week may be full and complete. (A full listing of Holy Week services and events is given in greater detail in the body of this newsletter.)

May these remaining weeks of Lent provide you and those you love with opportunities for spiritual growth.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Jim Hoppert

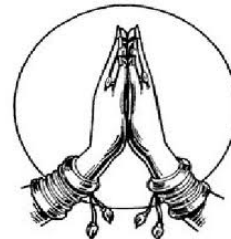
# MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3/01 Richard Rortvedt  
 3/02 Louise Leverenz  
 3/03 Nola Fieck  
 Evelyn Kretsch  
 Kay Mauk  
 Stacy Bender  
 Amy Carey  
 3/04 Brittany Daigle  
 Simon Feldner  
 3/05 Claude Kent  
 Carol McElroy  
 3/06 Peyton Picard  
 3/07 Jackie Veldman  
 Megan Roberts  
 Eli Fuerst  
 3/08 Victor Tewinkle  
 Beckett Richardson  
 3/10 Morgan Clarke  
 3/12 Travis Luedke  
 3/17 Marion Mayer  
 Joshua Veldman  
 Wiley Wolfert  
 3/18 Janice Bunyea  
 Anne Hernandez  
 Mark Kleinhans  
 Kevin Mauk  
 Linda Nysse  
 Marion Lehmann  
 3/19 Linda Bosman  
 3/21 Florence Blanke  
 3/23 Don Hurlburt  
 3/24 Roberta Becher  
 Terry Grall  
 Abigail Jones  
 Evan Raeder  
 Norman Lehrke Jr.  
 3/25 Leslie Blad  
 3/26 Don Laack  
 3/27 Abby Debbink

3/28 Cody Wolfert  
 Zachary Kessler  
 Michael Theune  
 Kathy Schaap  
 3/29 Carol Barts  
 3/30 Margaret Hughes

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3/03 Jeremy & Jody Pratt  
 3/23 Jeff & Linda Krueger  
 3/30 Jeff & Laurie Born  
 Tom & Carol Melger



## PRAYING HANDS MINISTRY

The Praying Hands Ministry will meet on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. in the Library. Our time together will feature prayers for healing and the option of anointing with oil for those seeking healing, as well. Prayers and the anointing with oil was recognized by the early church as an avenue for God's healing spirit, as we find it in James 5:14: "Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray for them, anointing them in the name of the Lord."

We encourage you to join us as we seek the healing that God offers each of us in body, mind, and spirit.



“Walk the Extra Mile”

In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disasters, the Church is called to reclaim the spiritual discipline of solidarity. Christians are summoned to adopt and live out a “theology of *acompañamiento* [accompaniment],” in the words of the theologian Roberto Goizueta. As natural, economic, and political forces disrupt and uproot communities, the Church is called to stand in solidarity with those who seek to move beyond the trauma of displacement toward a promise of healing and peace.

The story of Ruth is ultimately about this solidarity. Naomi and Ruth were very much like today’s refugees: they never *chose* to move from country to country, rather, it was *imposed* upon them by forces beyond their control. They lived in a society where the patriarchal economy meant that a women’s livelihood was *entirely* dependent on her male relationships (father, husband, even son). Yet when that system failed them, Ruth chose solidarity with Naomi over despair, and accompanies her mother-in-law to pursue a livelihood for both of them.

This option for accompaniment is truly a biblical principle that saturates the pages of scripture. From God who is present with Hagar in the desert and calls her to remain close to her son Ishmael (Genesis 21), to the Parable of the Sheep and Goats where the criterion for judgement is that of compassionate accompaniment (Matthew 25), to St. Paul’s exhortation that Christians should “rejoice with those who rejoice [and] weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15). This promise to walk together is mutual and reciprocal, where both parties are in need, and

both experience the real power that emerges from the spiritual discipline of solidarity.

Ruth’s promise to Naomi defines what solidarity authentically entails, and it stand as a challenge for Christians today to walk with refugees as they build new homes in strange lands.

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we, as the body of Christ, have the opportunity and power to help those who are living in despair as refugees. If refugees had the choice to return home, many would not have a place to return because their homes most likely has been destroyed – either burned, severely damaged, or is still an unsafe place to live.

This year as you consider your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, for one moment, think of what it would be like to not have a place to call home, and then make your very best gift. Let us make Ruth’s promise our own. Let us live out the call of solidarity with all people, especially those displaced by disaster, war, and famine.



Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Don’t forget to turn your clocks **ahead** 1 hour!



Mark your calendar for the up-coming events:

**Annual Rummage Sale**, Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**N. E. Association of the Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting**, Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>  
**Confirmation**, Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

## MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, March 6, 2016-Fourth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm: Psalm 32

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sunday, March 13, 2016-Fifth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm: Psalm 126

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

Sunday, March 20, 2016-Palm Sunday

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

Passion Narrative: Luke 23:1-49

Thursday, March 24, 2016-Maundy Thursday

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 12:-1-4, 11-14

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Friday, March 25, 2016-Good Friday

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm: Psalm 22

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Gospel: John 18:1-19:42

Sunday, March 27, 2016-Easter

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE  
FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS**

### HOSPITALIZED

Memorial, Sheboygan

Linda Lehrke, Ross Bub

St. Luke's, Milwaukee

Larry Zwerg

### FUNERALS

2/6/16 Caroline Risse



Dear Care Meal Ministry,

Thank you so much for the wonderful meal you provided after our baby was born. It was so nice to not have to worry about making supper and all of the food was delicious! It was so kind of you.

Thanks,

Liza Thelen, Jason Wilson and Baby Quinn

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Thank you to those who were so thoughtful and kind in contributing to the delicious meal that was delivered to our home. It was very much appreciated; although I could cook with my left hand it was nice to have a break. We are grateful for your ministry. Bless all of you.

Judi Miller

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Two adult Christian education offerings will be offered during the month of March. Beginning on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m., we will start a seven-week series on the book, *Seven Last Words: An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus*, authored by James Martin, S.J., which will feature reflections on Jesus' final words from the cross. (The Amazon list price is \$12.73).

The other opportunity will be held at Generations on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. and will feature a study in the final chapters of John's gospel (17-21) that will take us into the first week of Easter.

I hope that a number of you will take advantage of the opportunity to grow in faith during these remaining days of Lent.

## MARCH USHER LIST

### Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>:

7:00 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Faith Gudex, Sam Veldman, Evie Gundersen

### Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer  
Bruce & Barb Hengst, Linda Krueger

### Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Terry & Rachel Risse, Cheryl Rortvedt

### Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>:

7:00 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Cassie Clarke, Ethan Fontany, Sam Veldman

### Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer  
Bob Becher, Ben Picard, Roger Rortvedt

### Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Gerry & Sheila Wagner, Steve Fieck

### Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>:

7:00 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Cassie Clarke, Sam Veldman, Lorena  
McKerrow

### Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer  
Gerry & Reta Klemme, Sharon Klemme

### Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Linda Bosman  
Al Bosman, Cindy Conrad, Lois Faas

### Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>:

7:00 p.m. Head Usher: Tom Daigle  
Dale & Janis Knuth, Bette Humbracht

### Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>:

1:30 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Evie Kretsch, Dale Miller, Scott Miller

### Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Ansel Tupper, Janice Bunyea, Judy Wilmot

### Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>:

7:00 a.m. Head Usher: Tom Daigle  
Terry & Rachel Risse, Betty Klemme  
9:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Norman & Karen Raeder, Annette Bunyea

### Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Richard Groene, Kevin & Debbie Lisowe

### Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Consistory  
Ken & Dorothy Baumann, Lorena McKerrow



## MARCH LITTLE LAMBS CHILD CARE

### Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Jill & Megan Thiel

### Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Janice Miller & Susie Katsma

### Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>:

8:30 a.m. Denise Kleinhans & Katie Oberreich

## FROM THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE . . .

Members of Salem Church,

During the next three years, the Salem UCC  
Endowment Fund Committee will be granting  
\$6,000 twice a year.

This is broken down as follows:  
\$2,400.00 toward existing ministries  
\$1,800.00 toward innovative ministries  
\$1,800.00 toward capital assets, improvements  
or debt reduction

We ask that you be reasonable with the  
amount you are requesting. There are some  
grants that have previously been written.  
These will be considered when we grant the  
next time.

The Endowment Committee