

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

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DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY: Marsha Meyer
CHURCH SECRETARY: Pamela Miller
MONETARY GIFTS SECRETARY: Jennifer Schoenefeld
MONETARY GIFTS ASSISTANT: Sharon Schoenefeld
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
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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.

OCTOBER 2016
Volume 66 No. 9

FIRST NOTES

Covenant. It is a word that is defined as an agreement – between two or more parties – and it’s a fairly big word in our faith tradition. God first established a covenant with Abraham and Sarah’s descendants: I will be your God and you will be my people. Jesus spoke of a new covenant of reconciliation with God that was sealed by his death and resurrection. Not only has God made covenant with us, but as members of the household of faith at Salem, we also make covenant with one another. Participation in a household of faith is a voluntary matter; no one can force us to belong to a certain community of faith or any community of faith. What we are and what we can become as a congregation comes from what we agree to do together. (This sort of thing, by the way, is what we expect of the young people of our Church School and Confirmation classes. There are expectations of how to act in class and how we treat classmates and teachers with respect.)

And I think that it’s a good thing for people to remember and renew the important covenants in their lives. On a few occasions in my ministry, I have presided over the renewal of marriage vows on significant milestone wedding anniversaries. I believe that these renewal of vows serve as both a reminder and a recommitment to the promises that were made years ago. Perhaps Christians should strongly consider doing that kind of thing with the vows that were made on our behalf at baptism and claimed as our own at confirmation. It might not be the worst idea for Christians to frequently (on an annual basis) renew their promises made to God and made to fellow members of the church. Will we profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? Will we promise to be Christ’s disciples, to follow his way, to resist oppression and evil, and to witness to work and word of Christ as we are best able? Will we promise to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ?

Every renewal and recommitment to those promises is a re-strengthening of covenant. It is a reminder of who we are (and perhaps most importantly) of whose we are. Covenant reminds us that we are not alone in this spiritual journey. We are dependent upon God and we are dependent upon one another. It is a reminder that we are stronger as part of a community than we are by ourselves.

It is my hope that as we begin a process of congregational renewal that we will have the opportunity, as a faith community, to renew our covenants and our commitments to God and to one another. More details will follow on that in the weeks ahead.

As speaking of things that we covenant to participant in, I want to make this brief signpost about the “Neighbors in Need” (NIN) all-church offering that we will be receiving on Sunday, October 2nd. NIN is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. More details will follow within the body of this issue of *Chapel Chimes*.

Your servant in Christ,
Rev. James Hoppert

Notes from Church and Ministry Team – “**Step up in your Faith Journey**”

In his First Notes article of the September Chapel Chimes, Rev. Hoppert stated that, “We are either growing and changing, or we are dying.” He asked us to prayerfully consider a commitment to grow. With spiritual growth in mind, the church and ministry team encourages (and challenges) each member (from the very young to the very experienced) to take at least one new or additional step on their personal spiritual journey and/or participation in / support of the ministries and missions of Salem UCC. The list of possible ways to “step up” with our congregation includes, but is certainly not limited to: Personal Prayer, Saturday/Sunday/Sticky Faith/ Thanksgiving Eve/Epiphany/ Lenten Wednesday/Holy Week Worship Services, Sunday School, House Band/Chancel Choir/Women’s Choir/Special Music, Confirmation, Jr./Sr. Youth Fellowship, Train Up A Child Ministry, Sign Pew Pad, Outreach Ministry, Helping Hands, Prayer Ministry, Rummage Sale, Little Lambs Child Care, Living Nativity, Greeter, Usher, Liturgist, VBS, Kids Night Out, SCRIP/ Benevolence/Financial Support, Adult Bible/Book Study, Altar Guild, Called to Care Ministry, Fundraising, Church Camps, Acolyte, Mission Trips, Serving at The Gathering / Welcome Table, Men’s Coffee, Northeast Association / WI Conference Delegate, Screen Tech, Forget-Me-Not, Technical Support, Sound System Operator, Video Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, Picnic, Sonshine Circle, Care Meal Ministry, Social Justice Ministries, Zoar-Salem Cemetery, Tree of Hope, Church Office Volunteer, Parish Nurse, Coffee Hour, Website, Chili Supper, Red Tent, Consistory / Committee Leadership, Building and Grounds Upkeep, numerous other Contributions of Time and Talents – and above all – showing love, kindness, care and understanding for those around us . Realizing that we may only reach a portion of our membership in this writing, our team will also be reaching out on an individual basis to members whose worship attendance, participation in Holy Communion and/or financial support of Salem have diminished. If members are engaged with the other faith communities and/or live a great distance from our church, they may be encouraged to consider affiliation with another church. As much as possible, we will attempt to reach out to encourage prayerful consideration of continued church membership. Members not responding may be moved to an Inactive membership list until such time as they choose to resume active membership. If anyone wishes to share joys or concerns with Rev. Hoppert, Dale Miller or members of our Church and Ministry Team, please contact the church office. We kindly request you share this article with your relatives and friends of the congregation. We also request that you lift all members of our congregation in prayer – whatever the needs. Thank you! – Salem Church and Ministry Team: Angie Hartmann, Cyndi Huibregtse, Mary Bender and Annette Bunyea



October Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

10/3	Faye Hughes Thomas Blad Angie Hartmann
10/4	Bonnie Bermke Ben Bosman
10/5	Arianna Grall Amber Ausloos
10/6	Robert Schuricht Madalynn Pratt
10/7	Elaine Kuck Drew Hoppert Eric Ellis Ryan Wachter
10/8	Mallory Andrews
10/9	Carole Hummell Vicki Binder
10/10	Larry Fuerst Mary Ann Luedke
10/11	Joey Halle Albert Versch
10/12	Michael Brooks Sophia Bub
10/13	Sharon Zwerg
10/14	Michelle Mauk
10/15	Jerad Lehmann Steve Vorpapel
10/16	Jaiden Krueger
10/17	Bernard Rudebeck
10/18	Kathleen Schmitt
10/19	William Lammers

10/20	Carol Lisowe Terry Risse Julia Rizzi Danielle Holzer Marley Meyer MaKenzie Meyer
10/22	Thomas LeMahieu Paul Clarke
10/23	Bruce Hengst
10/24	Robert Groene Isabella Gutschow Lisa Knuth Natalie Faas
10/26	Cassandra Clarke
10/27	Barbara Butters Blanche Hofschild Hans Palm Brett Pilling Elaine Shaffer
10/28	Amber Jenquin
10/30	Annette Ostrom Elizabeth Miller Carter Pilgrim Katie Hanson
10/31	Nathan Sippel

ANNIVERSARIES

10/2	Ed & Delores Titel
10/4	Jordan & Leslie Blad Mike & Kelly Wolfert Eric & Abby Jones
10/6	Gene & Charlene Boll Ross & Erin Miller
10/7	Jim & Pat Wachter
10/9	Randy & Denise Prange
10/11	Albert & Gail Versch
10/13	Ray & Robbie Gremminger
10/15	Dale & Janis Knuth
10/18	Dean & Karen Buelke Russell & Kathleen Schmitt
10/20	Steve & Michele Sander
10/21	Tom & Jackie Veldman
10/23	David & Judy Wilmot
10/26	John & Bette Humbracht
10/28	Lyle & Kaye Theune Wes & Cyndi Huibregtse
10/29	Kyle & Melissa Odekirk
10/30	Joe & Stacy Ausloos



Dear Salem Family,

Once again we are asking if you will help support our effort to raise funds for ALS [Lou Gehrig's Disease] in honor of our son-in-law Jon who has had this devastating disease for the past four years.

This year we are going to participate in the ALS October 16th Walk as VIRTUAL WALKERS in Plymouth. Rebecca, Olivia and Rachel will walk in Los Angeles with Jon participating in his motorchair.

Because of Jon's advocacy in bringing attention to ALS via a video documentary he produced and ALS Awareness on Facebook, he will be receiving the Golden West Chapter "ALS Hero Award" this year at the Los Angeles Walk.

Please note, we will not be approaching any of you directly this year but those of you who wish to honor Jon and support our effort to raise funds for ALS may do so by contacting us for a donation form and envelope.

We thank you for your past support and will appreciate any help you can offer this year.

"Someday we'll be able to name a cure after Lou Gehrig instead of a disease."

Art and Barb Pahr



THANK YOU

Thank you to Kymn Schicker for cleaning the seat cushions in the sanctuary and the gathering area. They look great!

Dear Care Meal Ministry,

We want thank you for the meal you brought to our home. We really appreciated it. Also, thank you for the cards and well wishes during my surgery and hospital stay (and also for Ross). Thank you to Rev. Hoppert and Dale Miller for their visits and prayers.

Ross & Margaret Bub

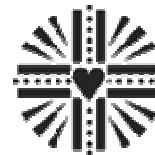
Dear Care Meal Ministry,

Thank you so much for the meal. We really enjoyed it.

Maureen & Bernie Rudebeck

Thank you to the Pastoral Leadership, Consistory and Congregation of Salem for honoring me with kind words, flowers and gifts in recognition of my years of participation in the Confirmation program. It has been a pleasure to serve in this way. I am very grateful for all of the time spent and relationships built with this family of faith. I look forward to continued service with you in our church's ministries and missions.

Peace and Blessings,
Mary



KEEP THESE FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

HOSPITALIZED
Aurora, Memorial

Margaret Bub, Ross Bub, Betty Klemme

MISSION & STEWARDSHIP

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Salem United Church of Christ will be receiving these gifts on October 2nd, as part of our World Communion Sunday.

Please keep an eye out for information and help us to reach our goal of \$900. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,
Mary Mullen - Chair
Mission & Stewardship Committee

LITTLE LAMBS CHILD CARE

Sunday, October 2nd:
8:30 a.m. Gail Kleinhans

Sunday, October 9th:
8:30 a.m. Jennifer Velier & Janice Miller

Sunday, October 16th:
8:30 a.m. Amy & Greta Debbink

Sunday, October 23rd:
8:30 a.m. Susie Katsma & Ashley Krueger

Sunday, October 30th:
8:30 a.m. Faye Hughes & Cora Meyer

OCTOBER LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, October 2, 2016 -
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hebrew Scripture: Lamentations 1:1-16
Psalm: Psalm 137
Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:1-14
Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Sunday, October 9, 2016
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm: Psalm 66:1-12
Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:8-15
Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Sunday, October 16, 2016
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm: Psalm 119:97-104
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Sunday, October 23, 2016
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hebrew Scripture: Joel 2:23-32
Psalm: Psalm 65
Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, October 30, 2016
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hebrew Scripture: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm: Psalm 119:137-144
Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Gospel: Luke 19:1-10



“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

--Anne Frank

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you to all the members who joined us for a financial update on Sunday, September 18. For those of you who were not able to attend, please feel free to ask for an update at any time from me, or another member of the Finance Committee. Also, our latest financial reports are available in the office for your review.

To summarize, our overall gifts are down slightly compared to last year, but our expenditures have also decreased to a greater extent. What's truly noticeable is that Salem's giving for special programs has substantially increased, demonstrating that Salem is a generous congregation. Thank you.

While general fund gifts received during the summer were good, but there are some fall (quarterly) demands that need to be met. Toward that end, we are going to schedule a couple of "rally" Sundays, where we will ask you to faithfully and prayerfully consider doubling your gift to meet our financial operational needs.

Please look for more information and notices in the weekly bulletins.

Thank you for all your generosity of spirit.

Mary Mullen - Treasurer

OCTOBER USHER LIST

Saturday, October 1st:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer
Bruce & Barb Hengst, Judy Wilmot

Sunday, October 2nd:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Mary Mullen
Ken & Pat Schoening, Cheryl Rortvedt

Saturday, October 8th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer
Kevin & Debbie Lisowe, Bob Becher

Sunday, October 9th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Julie Sukowaty
Evie Kretsch, Lois Faas, Lynn York

Saturday, October 15th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Mary Bender
Ed & Darla Ardell, Shelley Bubb

Sunday, October 16th:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Linda Bosman
Salem Youth

Saturday, October 22nd:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Jerry & Reta Klemme, Sharon Klemme

Sunday, October 23rd:

8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Jeff Bender
Steve Fieck, Carol Barts, Cindy Conrad

Saturday, October 29th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Lori Holzer
Ralph & Carol Groene, Judy Wilmot

Sunday, October 30th:

8:30 p.m. Head Usher: Mary Mullen
Terry, Amy & Greta Debbink

Saturday, November 5th:

4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker
Lori Holzer, Ansel Tupper, Janice Bunyea

Sunday, November 6th:

8:30 p.m. Head Usher: Tom Daigle
Dale & Janis Knuth, Bette Humbracht



May the strength of God pilot us, may the power of God preserve us, may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us.