

# Youth and Family Ministries

September 2018

## Ongoing Opportunities

We welcome God's children of all ages to join us in worship on Saturday afternoons at 4:30 or on Sunday mornings at 8:30.

Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45, except when otherwise noted on the Sunday School calendar. Children beginning 4K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade from our church and community are welcome to participate in Sunday School.

Confirmation Classes meet on Wednesday nights. Classes begin at 6:15 and end at 7:30 unless otherwise noted on the syllabus. Students are welcome to enroll as early as 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Our Confirmation program is a 3 year program that combines study of scripture, faith application, prayer, worship, discipleship, and fellowship.

JR Youth Fellowship is open to children from 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. JR Youth meets once a month from September-May. They generally meet after Sunday School until noon, except when they have special activities or events planned.

SR Youth Fellowship welcomes youth from 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. SR Youth meets once a month from September-May. They generally meet on Sunday evenings from 6-7:30pm.

Sticky Faith is a ministry for intergenerational faith formation and fellowship that happens 3 times during the program year. Sticky Faith is open to all. Children may attend without parents when they are in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

A Learning Community for all ages meets on Sunday mornings at 10am in the church library. All are welcome!

For additional information about any youth and family ministries program or event, please contact Marsha Meyer at [marsha@saalemuccplywi.org](mailto:marsha@saalemuccplywi.org) or call the church office 892-7456.



Students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade or beyond, who are interested in learning more about the Confirmation process at Salem, are invited to contact the church office for enrollment information.

Classes begin on September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm. Please be sure to bring your Bible, a notebook, your signed permission slip for the Lakeland U Confirmation Event, your Confirmation workbook and pen/pencil.

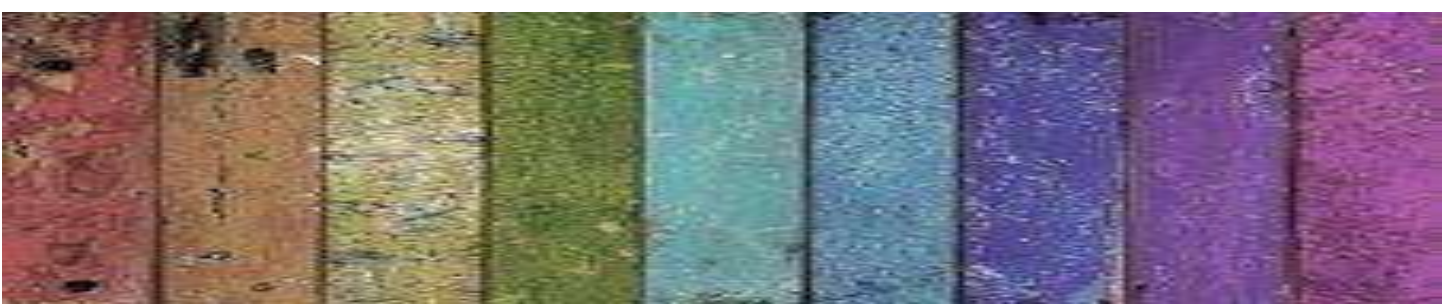
Please be sure to bring your signed permission slip for the Lakeland University Confirmation Event (held on September 19<sup>th</sup>) with you to class on September 5<sup>th</sup>. AND note that we will be returning to church at 9pm.

Please mark your calendars for the Confirmation Retreat @ Pilgrim Center March 1-3, 2019. Each Confirmand needs to attend at least one retreat before they are confirmed, but they are welcome to attend as many times as they wish. (Even after you are confirmed, too...☺) The Northeast Association offers a \$50 scholarship to each participant; Salem offers a \$50 scholarship (thanks to the church camp scholarship fund). The remaining balance is the responsibility of the families (\$98). Faith in Action Funds can be used and fundraisers are also an option to help cover the costs.

Parents, faith mentors, and friends, know that you are WELCOME to join us at any event or class.

### What's coming up in Confirmation?

Sept 5	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Sept 12	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Sept 19	Lakeland University Confirmation (Event 6:15-9pm)
Sept 26	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Oct 3	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Oct 10	Year 3 Mentor Meal (5:30-6:15pm)
Oct 17	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Oct 24	Class (6:15-7:30pm)
Oct 31	Year 3 Serving at the Gathering (2:45-7:30pm)
	Years 1&2 Class (6:15-7:30pm)



# acolyte

*Bring the Light*

Students grades 3-6 will be learning how and why we acolyte at our acolyte workshop on Sept 16 from 9:45-10:15am. ANYONE interested in learning more about the importance of this ministry is WELCOME to join us in the sanctuary for this opportunity.

**Acolyte Schedule for September:**

- 8/26 Tom Blad
- 9/2 Delaney Fischer
- 9/9 Greta Debbink
- 9/16 Sam Meyer
- 9/23 Maddy Pratt
- 9/30 Hannah Velier



September 23 at 10:45

We all have questions about communion and our understanding changes as our faith grows. When a child begins to ask questions, it is time to have a conversation about Communion. If that time has come in your household, we invite you (parents & children, and other curious people) to join us for a conversation about communion.



September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am  
Beginning in Fellowship Hall  
Refreshments will be served



September 2<sup>nd</sup> in worship

Learners of all ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to worship on August 26<sup>th</sup> for a blessing and recognition that each year (each moment, actually) we have to opportunity to begin again with a clean slate. Thanks be to God for this amazing gift! We hope to see you there. ☺





*A group for youth grades 3-6*

*We will be meeting on September 9 from 10:45-noon to talk about and set goals for what we'd like to see happen, what we'd like to support, and fun things we'd like to participate in as a group this school year.*

*Join us, if you can! We'd love to have you be a part of JR Youth!*



**A group for youth grades 7-12**

**What a summer we've had.... an inspiring youth gathering with 300 other UCC youth at Great Lakes Regional Youth Event (we can't wait to share about our experience with you in worship on October 21)... a fun and service-orientated Mystery Trip that had us guessing what was coming next throughout our time together.**

**We will begin our regular schedule of meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month (during the school year) from 6-7:30pm. That would make our first meeting Sept 9<sup>th</sup>. Join us this month for pizza and planning.**

**Because of our passion for the ministry at Bridgeway House, we plan to begin our Meal Share Ministry there for the first time on Sunday, September 23. We will plan to leave the church at 4pm and return by 8pm. There is a signup sheet on the SR YF bulletin board. Add your name, if you plan to join us. Space WILL BE limited so that we don't overwhelm the Bridgeway House families.**

## Children's Bible Sponsorship



Putting age appropriate Bibles into the hands of our children gives them the opportunity to read and learn the stories of our faith.

Children entering Sunday School (as 4k-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students) are given a Family Story Bible.

Students entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade receive an NRSV study Bible.

Bibles can be sponsored for \$20 each

To contribute to the Bible sponsorship fund, please use the tear off section below, attach it to your contribution and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you for your generosity

Children's Bible Donation

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

General Contribution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope Number: \_\_\_\_\_



September 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:45-10:15am



# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

There are many great things going on at Salem and our Sunday School is one of them! We can't wait to have everyone back in the regular routine that the school year brings. We look forward to seeing our Sunday School families on September 9<sup>th</sup> for the first day of Sunday School.

On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, during 8:30 worship, we will be offering a Blessing of the Backpacks. Learners of all ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to worship for a blessing and recognition that each year (each moment, actually) we have an opportunity to begin again with a clean slate. Thanks be to God for this amazing gift! We hope to see you there. ☺

All are invited to Fellowship Hall, following worship on September 9<sup>th</sup> for our Sunday School Open House. This is an opportunity for you to meet our teaching ministry volunteers, and learn more about our program and plans for the upcoming year as well as other opportunities coming up in the life of the church. Please plan to join us!

Children grades 3-6 are welcome to stay after Sunday School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month to join us for JR Youth Fellowship. We typically meet from 10:45 until noon. Our first meeting will be held on Sept 9<sup>th</sup>. We usually share highs and lows; the kids take turns choosing a devotion; we pray together; have a snack (kids gotta eat ☺); we work on projects that are important to us (last year our JR Youth kids promoted a food drive for Christmas boxes for the Salvation Army and we collected personal hygiene kits and made T-shirt bags to be given out to homeless people at Back Bay Mission, just to name a few); have some fun playing games (we take our kickball games VERY seriously; enjoy activities (like our Hugs N Cookies project, going to the movies or having a fun day at Blue Harbor); or just hanging out in the youth room. It's a great time and we LOVE having new friends join us.

On September 16<sup>th</sup> all students in 4k and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will receive Bibles that people from our church have donated so that every child in our Sunday School has a Bible that is their very own and is appropriate for their age level. It's a great testament to how important children are to our faith community at Salem. We also want to make sure children who have joined our Sunday School program for the first time in the past year also have a Bible specifically for them. Please contact Marsha if your child(ren) are in need of a Bible to be sure that we have one just for them on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

During Sunday School on September 16<sup>th</sup> children in grades 3-6 will be participating in an acolyte workshop to learn how to acolyte and why it's such an important part of worship. Parents are welcome to join us to observe or to ask questions. Following the workshop, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students will bring home a schedule of when they expect to serve as an acolyte for the next 52 weeks. If your child is unable to acolyte on their scheduled day(s), please try to switch with another child (contact information is included on the schedule, and a reminder of the month's upcoming acolyte schedule is always included in the Chapel Chimes). Thanks for helping your child recognize what an important responsibility they are being entrusted with.

Children's Sabbath is planned for October 21<sup>st</sup>. That is the first opportunity that the children will have to sing in worship and be a very important part of leading worship (they REALLY LOVE leading worship) Please mark your calendars, and plan to be a part of the experience!

Finally, I want to invite you to be a part of our new Learning Community for ALL ages who will gather on Sunday mornings at 10am in the church library. It will be an informal class that will give the opportunity to visit scripture (that you may or may not have heard), ask questions (without judgement), listen to other people's perspectives (we can learn so much from one another), and try to figure out how these ancient stories relate to what is happening today.... in all of our lives. A few rules:

1. No judgment. Some of us know a bit about the Bible, some of us do not. That's OK. There is value in all of our different perspectives.
2. We don't all have to agree.
3. It's OK to have questions.
4. It's OK to not have answers.
5. Come as you are.

I can't wait!

-Marsha

LOVE (ing) GOD.  
LOVE (ing) PEOPLE.

Thank you for serving at the Gathering



## Fun from VBS



# A LEARNING COMMUNITY

for all ages

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4. It's OK to not have answers.
5. Come as you are.

Feel free to grab some refreshments and join us at 10am on Sunday mornings. I can't wait!