

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

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**OCTOBER**

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CHURCH SECRETARY: Pamela Miller  
MONETARY GIFTS SECRETARY: Jennie Schoenefeld  
CUSTODIAN: Cheryl Rortved

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

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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 2018  
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# FIRST NOTES

As I write this article, I am midway into my first week back after recovering from surgery. I am grateful for the prayers, the cards, and the well-wishes that have been offered on my behalf and behalf of our family during this time. The surgery went well and the recovery continues as it should. God is good.

Two weeks out at the beginning of the church programming year seems like a long time and a very odd time to be away. Soon enough, October will be here, and I haven't experienced much of September around these parts. So it goes.

Sunday, October 7 is World Communion Sunday (as well the date to receive the all-church offering, Neighbors in Need). Our celebration of Holy Communion on that day reminds us that we are in fellowship, at the table, with all kinds of Christians all around the world. Christians can be a pretty diverse bunch of people, world-wide. Some of us come from the first-world countries, and others of us come from the developing world. Some of us handle snakes and don't have instrumental music in church, and others of us like high church liturgy and chants. Some of us are right-of-center in our politics and others of us are left-of-center. Yet, the one thing that draws the diverse bunch of us together is our confession of the sovereignty of Jesus and our belief in God's saving work through him. When we gather around the table, we put aside the differences in background, age, and social status and join together as family.

Do I always see eye-to-eye with members of my extended family? No, but I still love them and want to remain with them whenever we have the chance to gather. Picnics and reunions give us the chance to do that with our families and the celebration of the Lord's Table gives us the chance to do this with our church family. The gatherings on communion Sundays gives us the chance to love and be loved, to feed others and be fed, ourselves, and to forgive and be forgiven. All of us need those things to live spiritually fulfilled lives.

I hope that all of you take advantage of the opportunity to be nourished and to fellowship on this particular celebration of Communion.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. James Hoppert



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 10/3 Faye Hughes  
Thomas Blad  
Angie Hartmann
- 10/4 Bonnie Bermke
- 10/5 Amber Ausloos
- 10/6 Robert Schuricht  
Madalynn Pratt
- 10/7 Elaine Kuck  
Drew Hoppert
- 10/8 Mallory Andrews
- 10/9 Carole Hummell  
Vicki Binder
- 10/10 Larry Fuerst
- 10/11 Joey Halle  
Albert Versch
- 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  
Carol Lisowe
- 10/20 Terry Risse  
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 Hans Palm  
Brett Pilling

- 10/30 Elaine Shaffer  
Elizabeth Miller  
Katie Hanson

**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 10/4 Jordan & Leslie Blad  
Mike & Kelly Wolfert
- 10/6 Gene & Charlene Boll
- 10/7 Jim & Pat Wachter
- 10/9 Randy & Denise Prange
- 10/13 Ray & Robbie Gremminger
- 10/15 Dale & Janis Knuth
- 10/18 Dean & Karen Buelke  
Russell & Kathleen Schmitt
- 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



**OCTOBER CHILD CARE**

Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>:  
Gail Kleinhans

Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>:  
Ashley Krueger

Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>:  
Faye Hughes

Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>:  
Annette & Lauren Bunyea

## FROM THE PARISH NURSE . . .

**Gut Reaction** – Immunotherapy’s effectiveness may depend on the bacteria living in a patient’s gastrointestinal tracts, studies show. Could the success of immunotherapy rest on what kinds of bugs reside in your gut? Recent research findings suggest yes – and point to steps that could help patients get the right microbiotic mix beginning this type of treatment.

Specific strains of intestinal bacteria increase the response rate to immunotherapy in patients with advanced melanoma and some other cancer types, according to results from three studies published recently in the journal *Science*.

Although immunotherapy has improved cancer treatment, just 35 percent of patients with melanoma respond well, indicating a need for better therapies, according to Thomas Gajewski, M.D., Ph. D, the AbbVie Foundation Professor of Cancer Immunotherapy at University of Chicago Medicine and a leader of one of the studies.

His team found that the presence of *Bifidobacterium longum*, *Collinsella aerofaciens* and *Enterococcus faecium* in the intestines was much higher among patients who responded to immunotherapy compared with non-responders.

The investigators noted that the presence of these bacteria in the gut may boost the infiltration of T cells, the body’s army against dangerous invaders, into the tumor microenvironment. The bacteria were also found to strengthen T cells’ ability to kill cancer cells.

These finding suggest a cause-and-effect relationship between gut bacteria and response to immunotherapies known as checkpoint inhibitors, according to the investigators. These drugs quiet the activity of the proteins PD-1 or CTLA-4, known as immune checkpoints because they prevent the immune system from overreacting to invaders. Without the influence of these proteins, the immune system can ramp up and attack cancer.

“Specific bacteria clearly contribute to improved anti-tumor immunity in patients,” Gajewski said.

“The gut microbiota have a more profound effect than we previously imagined.”

Previous findings in mice had linked the presence of certain gut bacteria to a better response to immunotherapy. “We knew there were multiple barriers that can decrease the odds that immunotherapy will work,” Gajewski said. “We initially thought the microbiome was a minor component. But in our current study, these bacteria were a very strong predictor of who would respond.”

That study included 42 patients who receive checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy for melanoma – 38 were treated with PD-1 inhibitors and four with a CTLA-4 inhibitor. Patient stool samples were collected prior to treatment to analyze bacteria.

The authors focused on eight types of bacteria found in high levels among patients who responded to treatment and two species that were more common among patients who did not respond. They defined the bacteria common in responders and the bacteria found more often in nonresponders as beneficial and nonbeneficial, respectively. Patients who had a higher ratio of beneficial to non-beneficial bacteria achieved a clinical response, according to the authors.

Next, the authors collected fecal bacteria from three patients who responded to immunotherapy and three who did not. The bacteria were transferred to the intestines of germ-free mice that were then implanted with melanoma cells and treated with PD-1 inhibitors. Tumors were observed to shrink in mice only if they had gut microbiota – a defined spectrum of bacterial species – from patients who had responded to the treatment.

These findings suggest that gut bacteria play an important role in cancer immunotherapy response. “Our results strongly suggest that the microbiota is a major factor – a gatekeeper for the immune response against a tumor,” Gajewski said. “Without microbial support the immune response just never quite gets going.”

Future clinical trials should test the effectiveness of *Bifidobacteria* as a method to enhance

immunotherapy, the study authors concluded: “Our current results open the avenue . . . for maximizing the ability to predict which patients are likely to respond to immunotherapies such as anti-PD-1.”

The authors also noted that they hope to discover additional gut bacteria that can improve immune response to cancer – and, according to findings published alongside theirs in *Science*, their peers at other institutions are doing just that.

**Bacteria and Longer Survival** – At the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, a team identified another group of bacteria associated with a good response to immunotherapy. Their study, conducted in 89 patients with metastatic melanoma, was partially funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), which summarized the results in its blog, *Cancer Currents*.

The investigators found that patients whose guts contained many of these so-called “good” bacteria – the genus *Faecalibacterium*, of the Ruminococcaceae family and Clostridiales order – experienced a longer progression-free survival than patients with fewer of the bugs, MC Anderson reported in a press release.

Also, patients with a more diverse mix of gut bacteria responded better to immunotherapy, according to the team led by Jennifer Wargo, M.D. an associate professor of surgical oncology and genomic medicine.

The scientists followed up with lab research showing that patients with more good bacteria had more cancer-killing immune cells in their tumors, whereas patients with higher numbers of “bad” bacteria those of the Bacteroidales order – had tumors that carried more immune-suppressing cells. Like Gajewski’s team, the scientists put human melanomas tumors and gut bacteria into mice, and they found that only the animals with the good bacteria responded to the medication.

Additional analysis showed that responding patients with high levels of the beneficial Ruminococcaceae/Clostridiales had greater T-cell penetration into tumors and higher levels of

circulating T cells that kill abnormal cells. Patients with abundant Bacteroidales had more circulating regulatory T cells and myeloid-derived suppressor cells, as well as a blunted cytokine response – all of which dampened anti-tumor immunity, according to the press release.

A third set of good bacteria in PD-1 immunotherapy responders – *Akkermansia muciniphila* – was identified in a study led by Laurence Zitvogel, M.D., of the Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus in Villejuif, France.

That study in patients with advanced lung, kidney or bladder cancer also established that antibiotics, taken for infection within a couple of months of immunotherapy’s first dose, resulted in shorter life spans, according to the NCI.

**What’s next?** – So what does all this mean for patients with cancer? Especially as this concept and ways to act on it mature, those who are eligible for immunotherapy should do all they can to prepare their microbiomes and help their immune systems kick in.

People’s microbiomes can be changed through diet, exercise, antibiotic or probiotic use or transplantation of fecal material, Vancheswaran Gopalakrishnan, Ph. D., a lead author of the MD Anderson study, said in a press release. A 24-week phase 1 trial in Israel is testing fecal transplantation in patients with metastatic melanoma that did not respond to immunotherapy. Through infusion administered during colonoscopy, participants will receive stool provided by fellow patients who responded to immunotherapy, after which they will swallow stool capsules.

Study leaders want to determine whether the strategy will cause side effects, as well as learn whether it will positively change the composition of patients’ gut microbiota and thus increase the number and activity of cancer-killing immune cells.

Interested patients can ask their doctors if any of these strategies might be helpful if they are available as part of standard care or through clinical trials.



Dear Salem Family, A big THANK YOU for the nice recognition you gave me on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The gifts from the Consistory, Congregation and individuals were sincerely appreciated, as were the kind words and time of fellowship after service.

Although I am retired from the bench I will be subbing from time to time and I am also available for weddings and funerals. Thank you! Barb Pahr



Dear Salem Family, Thank you for the kind words of thanks and recognition you gave me on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup>. And a special thank you to Rev. Hoppert for sharing his reflections on my "mission of keeping things on track" for our broadcast ministry.

While I will no longer be sitting in my corner at the sound console on a regular basis I will be taking a turn now and then "pushing the buttons." Art Pahr



Many thanks to the care meal ministry team for the delicious dinner delivered to our home. Betty is now recovering from recent surgery and Jan is her 24/7 caregiver. It was such a treat to get acquainted with Dale and Janis Knuth who arrived with all the home cooking. We are truly blessed to have such a caring church family.

Betty & Jan Nohlquist



I would like to thank the Care Meal Ministry for the delicious meal that was sent to our family and for the visit that accompanied it.

Your expression of care and concern was much appreciated. I am certain that gestures like these, as well as your thoughts and prayers, have contributed to a successful healing.

Rev. Jim Hoppert



Thank you to Ron Schoenfeld, Roger Rortvedt, Terry Risse, Claude Kent and Bob Schuricht for your help with the lighting project. Thank you also to Ed Ardell for spearheading the project to have more energy efficient lighting throughout the building.



Thank you to Rev. Hoppert, Sharon Klemme and the helping hands, plus staff and members of Salem who gave great offerings of comfort at the passing of our mother.

Luvilla Hofschild Family



**KEEP THESE FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

**Hospitalized**

Rev. Hoppert & Dick Wimmeler

**Funerals**

9/6/18 Gail Versch at SFH  
9/25/18 Albert Nysse at Salem UCC

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

We will continue our study in Max Lucado's book, *When God Whispers Your Name* through October 15<sup>th</sup> and we will begin a new study (TBD) in November.

The Wednesday group at Generations will continue its study in 2 Samuel.

**OCTOBER**  
**LECTIONARY READINGS**

Sunday, October 7, 2018 - Twenty-seventh  
Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Hebrew Scripture: Job 1:1; 2:1-10  
Psalm: Psalm: 26  
Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12  
Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Sunday, October 14, 2018 - Twenty-eighth  
Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Hebrew Scripture: Job 23:1-9, 16-17  
Psalm: Psalm 22:1-15  
Epistle: Hebrews 4:12-16  
Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

Sunday, October 21, 2018 - Twenty-ninth  
Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Hebrew Scripture: Job 38:1-7  
Psalm: Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c  
Epistle: Hebrews 5:1-10  
Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Sunday, October 28, 2018 - Thirtieth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Hebrew Scripture: Job 42:1-6, 10-17  
Psalm: Psalm 34:1-8  
Epistle: Hebrews 7:23-28  
Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

**OCTOBER USHER LIST**

**Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker  
Richard Groene, Kevin & Debbie Lisowe

**Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>:**  
8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Linda Bosman  
Al Bosman, Janice Bunyea, Ansel Tupper

**Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker  
Bruce & Barb Hengst, Bob Becher

**Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>:**  
8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Amy Nischik  
Marvin & Judy Paulson, Annette Bunyea

**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>:**  
4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kay Scheible  
Ray & Robbie Gremminger, Sharon Klemme

**Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>:**  
8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Bret Schoenefeld  
Salem Youth

**Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>:**  
4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker  
Jerry & Reta Klemme, Lori Holzer

**Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>:**  
8:30 a.m. Head Usher: Terry Risse  
Dale & Janis Knuth, Bette Humbracht

**Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
4:30 p.m. Head Usher: Kymn Schicker  
Consistory Member, Ed & Darla Ardell

**Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>:**  
8:30 p.m. Head Usher: Linda Bosman  
Terry, Amy & Greta Debbink

**ATTENTION**  
**PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS**

If your child is in college, please call the church office with their college address. The ladies of the Red Tent Ministry would like to reach out to them while they are away at school.



Before the throne of the Almighty, man will be  
judged not by his acts but by his intentions. For  
God alone reads our hearts.

Mahatma Gandhi