



Chapel Chimes

Newsletter

"Sharing faith, lifting up, reaching out and growing together."

March 2021
VOLUME 71 No. 3



FIRST NOTES

By: Rev. Jim Hoppert

It is hard for me to escape the fact that March will be the one-year anniversary of the time that everything started shutting down due to the pandemic. In the midst of a fruitful Lenten season, all of the in-person activity of the church ground to a halt and we had to shift gears quickly. Naively, I first believed that the disruption would last but a few weeks; soon I grasped the true impact of changes.

There was much uncertainty and fear in those days. The memories of those disruptions, both professional and personal, will not be pleasant ones.

However, we come to the one-year mark in much different place. We have a better sense for how the virus works and who is most severely impacted by it. We have vaccines being distributed and between the vaccinations and those already infected we should be making progress to slowing the outbreaks of the virus. The rates of infection have decreased significantly in our part of the world, and we have targeted the return to limited in-person worship at the beginning of March.

Holy Week will be start on March 28th—Palm Sunday—and it is not certain, yet, what the mix of services will look like during Holy Week. We ask for your patience. Starting things back up will take more time than shutting things down did. We will communicate any changes in the schedule as soon as we can.

I can tell you, though, that the signs on the horizon give me optimism. A colleague once described these last eleven months as the “Lent that never ended,” but I've never subscribed to that point of view. Yes, the reality of cross has been our constant companion over these month (and the shadow of suffering and death has been real), but I have always looked for signs of resurrection along the way, too. The faithfulness of God's people, the flexibility to adapt when circumstances have dictated it, and signs like the presence of a dozen cars in the parking lot to celebrate Christmas Eve on a cold December night, give me glimpses of resurrection.

Our journey to Jerusalem in this Lenten season is not one that we make alone: Jesus is always with us on the way. May that thought give us comfort and encouragement in the days ahead.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, March 7, 2021
Third Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm: Psalm 19
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Gospel: John 2:13-22



Sunday, March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10
Gospel: John 3:14-21

Sunday, March 21, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm: Psalm 51:1-12
Epistle: Hebrews 5:5-10
Gospel: John 12:20-33

Sunday, March 28, 2021 Palm Sunday

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-39
Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11
Gospel: Mark 11:1-11
Passion Narrative: Mark 15:1-39

SPONSORING OPPORTUNITIES (ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS, RADIO BROADCASTS)

If you would like to honor someone you love, or mark a special day, please consider sponsoring the bulletin or altar flowers (\$20 each or \$40 combined), or perhaps a radio broadcast (\$50).

There is a binder which is located east of the Gathering Area on the table or use the link below. The church office is also available to help you in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.



In-Person Worship resumes Sunday, March 7th

RSVP REQUIRED TO ATTEND IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES

Seating in our sanctuary will be limited in order to provide for social and physical distancing. We are asking that persons interested in attending in-person worship RSVP by calling the church office at 892-7456 or by clicking on the box below no later than by noon on Wednesday prior to worship that you plan to attend (in the case of the March 7th worship service, for example, that would be March 3rd).

USHER SIGN UP FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES

Three volunteer ushers are needed each week. The usher responsibilities have changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a training session is required to ensure the safety of our parishioners, volunteers and staff. Please contact the church office (892-7456) if you are willing to serve as an usher for in-person worship. You can also click on the box below to direct you to SignUpGenius.

Journey with us through Lent, Holy Week, and Easter

Join us for worship!

Sundays

8:30am Live Stream on Facebook

10:30am In-Person (beginning March 7)

Wednesdays

7pm Live Stream on Facebook

7pm Drive In Service

Holy Week



March 28
at 8:30 &
10:30am



April 1
at 7pm



April 2 at
1:30pm



April 4
at 8:30 &
10:30am

There are many opportunities to experience the seasons of Lent and Easter through worship and reflection at Salem United Church of Christ

We warmly invite you to join us online or in person as we journey together from reflective Lenten Midweek Worship focused on healing the broken parts of our lives, joyful procession of Palm Sunday, the last meal they shared together on Maundy Thursday, the dark hours on Good Friday, and celebrating the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday. All are welcome here!



2021 Easter Plant Order Form

Orders need to be to the church office please by Friday, March 12. Mail in your order form or phone 920.892.7456 with your information please.

Your Name & Phone Number	In Memory/In Honor of (circle one)

Description	Cost
Single Easter Lily <i>5+ Blooms</i>	\$9.50

6" Hydrangea	\$18.50	Pink	Blue		
6" Azalea	\$18.50	Pink	Red	Variegated	
6" Mum	\$10.00	Yellow	Lavender	White	
6" Martha Washington Geranium	\$10.50	Burgundy	Pink	Purple	
6" Reiger Begonia	\$12.00	Pink	Yellow	Salmon	
6" Tulips	\$9.00	Red	Pink	Purple	Yellow
6" Daffodils	\$9.00	Yellow			

Following worship on Easter Sunday, please do take your blooms home or let the church office know if you'd prefer donating them to a local area that might enjoy their beauty. Thank you.



THE UPPER ROOM
WHERE THE WORLD MEETS TO PRAY

The Upper Room magazine's mission is to provide a practical way to listen to scripture, connect with believers around the globe, and spend time with God each day.

This publication provides a firm foundation for daily devotion so that each day keeps you in tune with God's teachings and, we hope, your spiritual fellowship with your church while we are apart.



Youth & Family Ministries News



During Lent we will not have formal Confirmation Classes. Students will instead be required to view our Lenten worship services which will be live streamed on Wednesdays at 7pm on [Salem's Facebook page](#) or posted later [on our Youtube Channel](#) and complete a [Confirmation Worship Notes](#) page for each week and turn it in each week (via email or drop it off at church).

Here is the schedule (for now):

- 3/3 Live Stream worship @7pm
- 3/10 Live Stream worship @7pm
- 3/17 Live Stream worship @7pm
- 3/24 Live Stream worship @7pm
- 3/31 6:30pm BOTH classes meet @ church
(for Easter Egg coloring)
- 4/3 9:30am arrive at church for the Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/7 6:30pm In-Person Confirmation Classes resume

If you have questions regarding our program, please contact Marsha or Rev Hoppert.



Seedlings

FAITH FORMATION FOR KIDS IN 4K-1ST GRADE
on Zoom on Sundays at 9:30am
contact the church office for login information

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

MULTI-AGE SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sundays at 10am on Zoom

Children 4K-6th graders welcome to join us for a large group learning experience with Bible stories, activities, games and community. Contact the church office for login information. All are welcome!

Connect
Faith Formation for 5th & 6th graders
Wednesdays at 4pm
Contact the church office for more information.

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

Easter Egg Hunt

APRIL 3 | 10:00 AM | SALEM UCC

Bring your baskets and join us for an outdoor Easter Egg Hunt

This event is sponsored by our Train Up A Child Ministry

March 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Richard Rortved 6:30pm Lenten Study	2 Louise Leverenz Bulletin deadline 7pm N Anon	3 Stacy Bender Nola Fieck Evelyn Kretsch Kay Mauk Simon Feldner Jeremy & Jody Pratt 10am Lenten Study 7pm Lenten Worship (stream & drive-in)	4 Brittany Winscher	5 Carol McElroy 7pm N Anon	6  125th Annual Celebration
7 Jackie Veldman 8:30am Worship (stream/FB) 9:30 SS Seedlings 10am SS 4K-6 10:30am Worship (inperson) 7pm AI Anon	8 6:30pm Lenten Study	9 Brian Pagel Bulletin deadline 6:30pm Consistory 7pm N Anon	10 Morgan Clarke 10am Lenten Study 4pm Connect SS 5/6 7pm Lenten Worship (stream & drive-in)	11	12 Easter Plant Orders Due 7pm N Anon	13
14  8:30am Worship (stream/FB) 9:30 SS Seedlings 10am SS 4K-6 10:30am Worship (inperson) 7pm AI Anon	15 6:30pm Lenten Study	16 Bulletin deadline 4:30pm Salem Green Board of Directors 7pm N Anon	17 Joshua Veldman Wiley Wolfert 10am Lenten Study 4pm Connect SS 5/6 7pm Lenten Worship (stream & drive-in)	18 Janice Bunyea Anne Hernandez Marion Lehmann Kevin Mauk	19 Linda Bosman 7pm N Anon	20
21 Florence Blanke 8:30am Worship (stream/FB) 9:30 SS Seedlings 10am SS 4K-6 10:30am Worship (inperson) 7pm AI Anon	22 6:30pm Lenten Study	23 Donald Hurlburt Jeff & Linda Krueger Bulletin deadline 7pm N Anon	24 Evan Raeder 10am Lenten Study 4pm Connect SS 5/6 7pm Lenten Worship (stream & drive-in)	25 Leslie Blad	26 Donald Laack 7pm N Anon	27 Abby Debbink
28 Kathy Schaap Cody Wolfert 8:30am Worship (stream/FB) 9:30 SS Seedlings 10am SS 4K-6 10:30am Worship (inperson) 7pm AI Anon	29 Carol Barts 6:30pm Lenten Study	30 Bulletin deadline 7pm N Anon	31 10am Lenten Study 4pm Connect SS 5/6 6:30pm Confirmation Class yrs 1&2 + Easter egg dying 7pm Lenten Worship (stream & drive-in)	<p>Salem United Church of Christ 217 Salem Drive, Plymouth, WI 53073</p> <hr/> <p><i>Please call the church office with any corrections to this calendar 920.892.7456</i></p>		



MARCH ANNIVERSARYS!

Jeremy & Jody	Pratt	3rd
Jeff & Linda	Krueger	23rd
Jeff & Laurie	Born	30th
Tom & Carol	Melger	30th



MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

Richard	Rortvedt	01
Louise	Leverenz	02
Stacy	Bender	03
Nola	Fieck	03
Evelyn	Kretsch	03
Kay	Mauk	03
Simon	Feldner	03
Brittany (Daigle)	Winscher	04
Carol	McElroy	05
Jackie	Veldman	07
Brian	Pagel	09
Morgan	Clarke	10
Joshua	Veldman	17
Wiley	Wolfert	17
Janice	Bunyea	18
Anne	Hernandez	18
Marion	Lehmann	18
Kevin	Mauk	18
Linda	Bosman	19
Florence	Blanke	21
Donald	Hurlburt	23
Evan	Raeder	24
Leslie (Kleinhans)	Blad	25
Donald	Laack	26
Abby	Debbink	27
Kathy	Schaap	28
Cody	Wolfert	28
Carol	Barts	29

Care Ministry

Please keep these individuals in your prayers for healing:

Mike

Eileen Metze



HOSPITALIZATIONS

If you or a family member is hospitalized, please contact the church office (892-7456). The hospitals no longer supply us with that information.

For those requesting immediate pastoral visit, please indicate the urgency for the pastor during the call. Thank you.



Sunday, March 14



TABLETS AVAILABLE FOR HOMEBOUND & PEOPLE WITHOUT INTERNET

The special gifts team has granted funds to allow the church to purchase tablets that our worship services can be loaded onto and delivered to those in our church family who do not have access to the internet or television broadcasts so that they can view our worship services. The devices will then be delivered to the homes

of the people who have requested them with our current worship service ready to view. When you have finished viewing worship, simply call to have the tablet picked up for the next person to use. (We do have the ability to sanitize the tablets between users.)

CHURCH ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

If there is something that you need assistance with (groceries, prescriptions, errands, etc.) please reach out to the church and we will find a way to help.

The Church Office (920-892-7456, churchoffice@salemuccplywi.org)



MISSION OPPORTUNITY THIS SUMMER

BACK BAY
MISSION
strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice, transforming lives

July 24-31, 2021

This trip is open to youth (15+) and adults

Cost is approximately \$600 per person
(includes lodging, mission fees, travel, and some meals)

For more information, contact Marsha or the church office to be added to the list of interested participants so that you can be included as more information becomes available.





KEEPING FAITH, DOING THE MATH

Salem friends and members, this has been a difficult year, and the start to 2021 has not been any easier.

In January we held our annual meeting where we approved our budget of \$265,000. Put simply, this budget requires weekly gifts of \$5,095. Since January 1, our average weekly receipts have been \$3,062, with a minimum of \$703 and only one week exceeding the \$5,000 goal.

Sadly, our expenses are constant with heat, electricity, water, sewer and salaries. We are still working through some staffing transitions, and we are grateful to have Sandy Rabe helping out in the office and supporting our ministerial staff.

Even though Salem has not been gathering in person, we have been gathering on-line, and our youth and children's programs have been busy as well. Sunday School attendance via Zoom has been strong, and I understand that families have been enjoying the experience.

So, where are we at? Salem continues providing support for the church community, and we need reciprocal support from the church community.

Our line of credit has about \$3,500 left to draw for shortfalls. Our current General Fund balance is just over \$700. Insurance has yet to be paid for February.

There are some Payroll Protection Plan loans available, and we will be looking into that as an option. Also, in April our line of credit is due, and I have begun working with the bank on renewing that line of credit. But neither of those options will help us in the next month, so we will need to borrow from Peter to pay Paul.

Based on our annual report, Salem has 239 members and 67 friends. If everyone gave equally, a gift of \$886 for the year, per person would cover our budget.

But, we don't give equally, and I thank God for the generosity of those who are able to give more and do. I confess, I am tired and my faith has been tested. This past year has been a test for all of us.

So I am asking you to please thoughtfully and prayerfully consider your **regular, ongoing support** of Salem United Church of Christ. As we are about to commemorate our 125th anniversary as a church and congregation, are we willing to provide the financial support to see us into a new year and beyond?

Again, we have electronic funds transfer available, if that make's giving easier. The church office is open M/Tu/W/F from 9:00-3:00, and gifts can also be mailed in.

Thank you, in advance.

On behalf of Salem Finance Team
Mary Mullen

Join Us for Worship

Live Stream on [Facebook](#) on Sundays at 8:30am and during Lent on Wednesdays at 7:00pm
(You do not need a Facebook account to view worship on our page and to see content there)

In-Person Worship is on Sundays at 10:30am will resume on March 7th
(Please call the church office to RSVP)

Worship is also posted to our [YouTube](#) page on Sunday afternoons
(Worship can also be accessed by going to our website salemuccplywi.org by clicking on online worship)

For those without internet access,

Our weekly worship services will continue to be available on: TV 14 on Wednesdays at 5pm and on the radio 1420am on Sundays at 9am.

ENDOWMENT FUND REQUESTS

Salem's Endowment Committee will be meeting in April to grant requests for funding of mission and ministry related activities and expenses. This includes existing ministries, innovative ministries, capital assets, improvements, or debt reduction. Past grants have included mission trips, grocery ministry, computer updates, and library resources, to name a few.

Please consider how Salem's Endowment Fund may offer financial support for your mission and ministry goals. **Request forms for funding will be accepted through Wednesday, April 14** for the upcoming round of grants. Printed forms are available through the church office. Requests may also be submitted online at www.bit.ly/endreq. Participants must outline the need, objective, budget, and anticipated results for each grant being requested. All are invited and encouraged to submit requests for funding. Related questions may be directed to Salem's church office.



Endowment Fund

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

217 Salem Drive, Plymouth, WI 53073

Phone: (920)892-7456 Fax: (920)892-4238

Email: churchoffice@salemuccplywi.org • Website: www.salemuccplywi.org

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday – Wednesday, Friday

Facebook Live Worship Services: Sunday 8:30 a.m. / In-Person Worship Services will resume March 7th

Rev. James Hoppert – Pastor, Email: pastorjim@salemuccplywi.org or 920-838-0405

Marsha Meyer - Director of Youth & Family Ministries, Email: marsha@salemuccplywi.org

Brittany Seifert – Accompanist • Paul Clarke - Consistory President

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

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Plymouth,
Wisconsin
53073-Bulk Rate
Permit No. 102

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY: Marsha Meyer
CONSISTORY PRESIDENT: Paul Clarke
MONETARY GIFTS SECRETARY: Jennie Schoenefeld
CUSTODIAN: Cheryl Rortvedt

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

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM-3PM M-TU-WED, & FRI
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