

# Chapel Chimes

"SHARING FAITH, LIFTING UP, REACHING OUT AND GROWING TOGETHER."

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN



## First Notes

by Rev. Jim Hoppert

The virus continues to drive the story and as the virus changes, so does the story. With the emergence of the Delta variant of virus, we've learned some things about how things stand. While I don't claim any medical expertise, I have done a lot of reading in the past sixteen months and have tried to keep current as much as I can on new developments; it's all part of the job description these days. Here is what I feel, with reasonable certainty, is true:

The Delta variant appears to be more contagious than the original Alpha strain; so far it is not showing itself to be more deadly.

"Breakthrough" cases—people coming down with the virus after being vaccinated—have happened and it does not appear to be a rare thing.

Vaccination does appear to significantly increase a person's chances of not being seriously infected.

Some form of the virus will remain with us, permanently. Delta has shown us that. Zero COVID isn't going to happen. We will have to live in a world where the virus is a thing. Hopefully, it becomes more like the seasonal flu in its impact.

What I've shared with you isn't the rosier picture, but it is, I feel, an accurate picture. Ultimately, we live in the world as it is and not as we would like it to be.

## First Notes (continued)

That said, we will make some adjustments to our proposed schedule as it was presented in last month's newsletter, per the recommendation of the Worship Team and approval by the Consistory. We will continue to meet in person at 10:30 a.m. in September as we had in August. We will continue to live-stream at 8:30 a.m. We will still to plan to meet in person for Christian Education and Confirmation. If persons wish to mask, they should feel free to do so. As always, things are always subject to change, so please keep on the lookout for notices.

Given the recent uptick in cases for our area and the hesitancy that some people have for being in public settings, we are postponing the Jonah musical until late February (which seems to be the next workable window in the life of the church). I will keep you updated when there is more news.

When it is all said and done, there may be no “easy” way forward. We can take reasonable precautions, but there will never be an elimination of risk in this life. The worst thing we can do is to let ourselves be governed by fear. Fearful minds are not effective minds and a fearful spirit is not a faithful spirit.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert



## Salem Green Seeks New Manager

The Salem Green Property Manager position is available this fall. This is full time employment with a benefit package but open for discussion on a part-time or job share position without benefits. The Manager reports to the Salem Green Board of Directors and is responsible for the day-to-day operations at Salem Green, including overseeing policies, projects, annual budgeting, leasing apartments, and hiring and supervision of staff. Experience with QuickBooks or some other financial program is necessary. Anyone interested in this position should contact Chris at the Salem Green office, 920-892-2912, or one of the Board members for further details. (Hans Palm, Ken Mauk, Dena Adamson and Lorena McKerrow.)

# READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

**Sunday, September 5** - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scriptures: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalm: Psalm 125

Epistle: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

**Sunday, September 12** - Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm: Psalm 19

Epistle: James 3:1-12

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

**Sunday, September 19** - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm: Psalm 1

Epistle: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

**Sunday, September 26** - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm: Psalm 124

Epistle: James 5:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50



*Thank  
You*

We would like to express our deepest appreciation for the sympathy that was extended to our family after the passing of Abby's father back in July. Your cards, your words of condolence shared in person, as well as your thoughts and prayers were much appreciated during this time of loss. Thank you.

Rev. Jim, Abby, John Michael, and Drew Hoppert



# Youth & Family Ministries News

Friends,

As it happens in the life of the church, something new is always beginning. While we are all anxious to return to the days when COVID-19 is not a part of daily conversation, it's important to be reminded that the church exists to serve all people. People of all ages and walks of life are what make up the body of Christ. People with different gifts and people with different opinions come together to form the church; and, as the church, we are bound in relationship with one another. We don't have to agree, but we must consider one another in all things.

With the school year about to begin, it is a high priority that we in the church do all we can to support a healthy community so that our children and the teachers in our community schools can begin again the tasks set before them. It is important that we do what we can to support health and wellness (both physical and emotional) for ourselves and one another. That means using outdoor space to read Bible stories under the maple tree instead of in the classroom, when weather allows. It means that we may need to modify how we gather from time to time. It means continuing to offer faith formation online for children, youth, and adults. It means offering learning opportunities in smaller groups at times other than Sunday mornings. We will offer these 'going the extra mile' ministries as an act of love and care for our community and for the people we serve.

That being said, if you have gifts to share in our teaching ministries (or if you have questions, or if you're curious about faith, or, or, or) please contact me to learn more about how you can help. There is a place for everyone here.

Peace & Love,

*Marsha*

ALL ARE  
WELCOME HERE!



**Connect**  
Faith Formation for 5th & 6th graders

**Wednesdays at 4pm**

Come over after school and join us for faith formation on Wednesdays. We'll begin at 4pm and conclude at 5pm. Connect is designed to make connections between the teachings of our faith and how we live our lives today.





**Sunday, Sept 12 from 10:45-noon**

**Join us as we plan and set goals for our program year to explore our faith, serve others, and build relationships.  
Kids grades 3-6 are welcome!**



Sunday, Sept 12 from 6-7:30pm

Join us for a campfire

(hot dogs and smores)

Bring a lawn chair and dress for the weather  
@ Salem UCC 217 Salem Drive, Plymouth  
Youth grades 7-12 are welcome!



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation  
Classes begin  
for all students  
Wed., Sept. 15.



CONFIRMATION  
orientation

Students entering 7th grade are eligible to begin the Confirmation process. (Please contact the church office if have not received the registration information in the mail.) An orientation for parents and students is planned for Wednesday, Sept. 8 from 6:30 - 8 pm.

Our classes are held on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm. If you have questions about the Confirmation program at Salem, please contact Pastor or Marsha in the church office.



We plan to resume in-person Sunday School this fall for children and youth 4k-6th grade beginning Sept. 12 from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Registration is open! Please contact the church office to get the link to register or a paper copy.

Families new to Sunday School are asked to contact the church office to receive additional information.

We will begin with a Kid's Camp format for the month of September, using outdoor space as much as possible and active learning opportunities for faith exploration.

Bibles will be distributed to children joining our Sunday School for the first time. They will receive an age-appropriate Bible for their use in class and at home. Please contact the church office by September 15 if your son/daughter is eligible to ensure that we have one set aside for them.

# Congratulations

## WISHING YOU A **Happy Birthday**

01 Eugene Boll	09 Reta Klemme	20 Gladys Palm
01 Eugene Littlefield	10 Robert Plahmer	20 Lindsey Zorn
02 Hattie Wykhuis	11 Anna Hoppert	20 Roger Rortvedt
02 Kevin Andrews	11 Zachary Gambrell	20 Warren Faas
03 Magnus Blad	12 Dianne Kaczmarski	23 Pietje Markus
05 Jeff Greuel	12 Jay Ellis	25 Chloe Voight
06 Brady Pratt	14 Lucia Blad	25 JoAnn Kraus
06 Janet Veleke	16 Jennifer Miller	25 Bill Klemme
06 Robert Becher	16 Jennifer Schoenefeld	26 Delores Titel
07 Joanne Lammers	16 Larry Huenink	26 Evelyn Kalk
09 Debra Lisowe	18 Jennifer Prange	26 Trevor Thiel
09 Ian Andrews	19 Mary Bender	



## *Blessings for a Happy Anniversary*

05 Bruce & Barb Hengst	12 Kevin & Kathleen Andrews
05 Kenneth & Kay Mauk	16 Norman & Karen Raeder
06 Alan & Linda Bosman	18 Dave & Carol Barts
07 Dan & Paulette Klotz	22 Tyler & Lauren Chisholm
10 Randy & Laurie Gutschow	25 Paul & Susan Clarke
10 David & Amy Nischik	27 Roger & Jacqueline Rortvedt
	27 William & Rachel Schwantes
	28 Jim & Val Gillman
	30 Peter & Marsha Meyer



Thanks  
for your support  
Kenney

I thank for all  
you have made  
& look forward to  
seeing you in Tampa!

Thank you  
for all you do  
for B&B  
great

BBM  
Really enjoyed  
your time here  
I hope to see you  
Guys AGAIN  
KeyMIA

Dear Friends of Salem UCC,

Your recent work camp time spent at the Back Bay Mission was a blessed event for many! Undoubtedly, there was a good impact on both our client's lives as well as yours. We trust whenever you reflect on that time, it will summon a smile. It surely does for those you helped. Your selfless acts of kindness and service restore a comfort and are a breath of hope for many in need on The Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Every one of us at Back Bay Mission extends our deepest gratitude for your support of our mission. Regardless of which program you chose to give your time and service to, you aligned with and helped support its vision to "do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

We look forward to the day you can join us again and Continue the giving. May God bless you in your journey

Thank you  
for everything!  
Shawn

Thank you  
so much  
for everything  
you all are what  
makes our mission  
possible. much  
love  
Laurie

Gratefully,  
Thank you  
for all of the small  
details that make a  
big difference!  
~ chance

AWESOME  
to HAVE you  
BACK, CHARIE

Thank you for your  
time and dedication  
to our mission!  
Amara

Thank you  
so very much.  
Nancy Boeh

Thank you  
very much  
for coming  
- Elicabeth

It takes  
a heart full of  
love to do what you  
do. Thank you so  
much.  
Lorraine

Thanks to  
you all!  
You are living  
our hope.  
James

Thank You for sharing  
your time, dedication &  
stories. Brsl, Kelih  
thank you for  
all that you do!  
Kirsten





## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Are you someone who enjoys working outside? Maybe an amateur (or professional) landscaper? Are you looking for a way to contribute to the church?

We are looking for people to help with a **one-time** project, working when it suits you!

Here are the jobs:

- cut and remove dead tree branches
- trim and remove bottom branches on pine tree
- trim bushes around the bell tower
- trim bushes adjacent to the Fairview playground
- trim other bushes around the front of the church that are overgrown
- edge the lawn

Pick one job or more than one! Work alone or with a friend! We are willing to work with you. For more information or to volunteer call one of us:

Kay Scheible 920-946-8004, Faye Hughes 920-207-7666 or Tom Daigle 920-838-1871

## *Endowment Fund Applications Being Accepted*

Salem's Endowment Committee will be meeting in October 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, Sunday School and library supplies, computer updates, and Habitat for Humanity, 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 Thursday, October 14, 2021 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](http://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 or members of the Endowment Committee: Tom Daigle, Mary Mullen, Alayne Krause, Kay Scheible and Rev. Hoppert.



# Looking at Stewardship

Dear Salem friends and family ...

This has been an interesting year to say the least. And, as we move into September and our regular program year begins we are hoping to bring things a little bit closer to normal.

Sunday School and Confirmation are starting up again, thanks to Marsha Meyer and her dedication. If there are any members who are interested in supporting our Christian education with their time, please reach out to Marsha. We are also looking at maintaining our streaming service as well as continuing traditional worship services.

Throughout this past year our church work has continued, albeit a little slower and without much fanfare. We've had a successful mission trip to Back Bay; we've cared for our sick and hospitalized members. We continue to provide meeting space for groups like NA and AA, as well as Art Pahr's fellow radio buffs.

Sadly, another aspect of this past year we must also recognize those that we've lost to their eternal home. It's always sad to lose a friend or family member, and even more so when we're not able to fully meet and mourn together. We acknowledge these losses and pray for the loved ones left behind.

Now, as we look toward the beginning of our fall program season, we look forward with hope in our hearts. Over the next few months it is our goal to reconnect with our members and families. Together we move toward Stewardship season. As part of our stewardship program in the past we have sent out pledge cards to mixed responses. In the coming weeks we do hope to reach out and ask everyone to confirm or update their contact information, so that we have a better idea of where our membership is at.

We will have our traditional Stewardship push coming in October / November. But first this month we are hoping that our members can help support the Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering. NIN is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of just and compassion throughout the United States, with two-thirds of the funds going to the UCC Justice and Witness initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Our goal for NIN is \$800 this year. Envelopes will be made available in the Narthex.

Re-engaging our membership is important as we move toward the end of the year and begin planning our budget for 2022. In truth, the financial support that we've received since Spring has waned. Average weekly gifts since mid-May are just under \$2,500. And as I've said before, our weekly budget to support our church ... utilities, salaries, phone, maintenance, insurance ... is \$ 5,000 per week.

Consequently, since June we have had to borrow an additional \$4,000 from our Line of Credit, to which we currently owe just over \$18,000, with a \$20,000 cap. We have also borrowed \$7,000 from our Restricted Funds in order to cover our operating expenses. It's clear that this practice is unsustainable, and if our financial support does not increase as we enter the program year, we will need to make some difficult decisions.

This year the UCC's Stewardship theme is Rooted in Love, and is based on Psalm 1:3a. "They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season."

Each of us know what we can share to help support Salem United Church of Christ. Each of us places a value on the Christian education, spiritual support, and connection that Salem provides. The church holds a place in our hearts, and sometimes it is minimized by the challenges of every day.

So, I plant the seed. And I pray for our trees and the fruit they yield.

In Christ's name.

Thank you.

Mary Mullen, submitted on behalf of Finance and Generosity

# Community News

*You're Invited*

## 11th Annual "Faith in the Fall" Music Festival

Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021 10 am to 2 pm

Our Shepherd UCC, Howards Grove

### MUSIC SCHEDULE

10:00 Worship Service with **Bella Music** from Wisconsin

11:00 **Praiseworthy** from Howards Grove

11:45 **THE STILL SPEAKING Band** from Sheboygan, WI

12:45 **VOX** from Sheboygan, WI

### FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

MUSIC, 50/50 RAFFLE, RAFFLE BASKETS,  
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY & GAME AREA

PULLED PORK AND TURKEY SANDWICHES, HOT  
DOGS, HOMEMADE BEANS, MACARONI AND  
CHEESE, POTATO SALAD AND TORTES

PLEASE BRING LAWN CHAIRS

EVENT WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE

\*For more information, please go to  
[www.ourshpherducc.com](http://www.ourshpherducc.com)

*\*Proceeds from the 50/50 raffle will be donated to the  
Sheboygan County Food Bank. Canned Goods for the  
Food Bank will also be collected. Thank you.*

### MENU

\*Hot Dog Sandwich or Plate \$3/\$5

\*Turkey Sandwich or Plate \$4/\$6

\*Pulled Pork Sandwich or Plate  
\$4/\$6

\*Plate = beans, chips, potato  
salad or macaroni and cheese  
(NEW this year) and pickle  
spear

Torte - Donation

Soda - \$1.00

FREE COFFEE

The city of Plymouth is in the process of updating its 2022-2042 comprehensive plan and would like to hear from you! The comprehensive plan is a document that ensures Plymouth remains a community where people are excited to live, work, and play.

Please share your thoughts at our open house to tell us about the things in Plymouth that are important to you and the parts about Plymouth that may need some improvement over the next 20 years.

**WHEN:**  
**September 2, 2021**  
**Stop by anytime between**  
**4:30 - 6:00 p.m.**

**WHERE**  
**Fire Department Training room,**  
**Lower Level, City Hall**



# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00pm Governance Team	2	3 7:00pm N Anon	4
5 8:30am Worship (Stream) 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 10:45am 7pm Al Anon	6 <i>Labor Day</i>	7 10:00am Staff 7:00pm N Anon	8 6:30pm-8pm Orientation for 1st year Confirmation students	9	10 <i>Consistory Reports Due</i> 7:00pm N Anon	11
12 <i>Communion</i> 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 10:45am Jr. Youth Fellowship 6:00pm Sr. Youth Fellowship campfire 7pm Al Anon	13 9:00am Men's Group	14 10:00am Staff 6:30pm Consistory 7:00pm N Anon	15 4:00pm Connect (Grades 5/6) 6:30pm-8pm Confirmation	16	17 7:00pm N Anon	18
19 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7pm Al Anon	20 9:00am Men's Group	21 <i>Newsletter articles due</i> 10:00am Staff 7:00pm Radio Exam 7:00pm N Anon	22 4:00pm Connect (Grades 5/6) 6:30pm-8pm Confirmation	23	24 7:00pm N Anon	25
26 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7pm Al Anon	27 9:00am Men's Group	28 10:00am Staff 6:30pm SCIO Delegate Meeting 7:00pm N Anon	29 4:00pm Connect (Grades 5/6) 6:30pm-8pm Confirmation (7pm Lakeland Program at the campus)	30		