

# 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

Well, friends, the saga continues.

It appears that most all of what I mentioned in last month's newsletter has come to pass: Omicron is a more contagious variant (much more contagious) but less severe in its effects than the Alpha and Delta were. Vaccination does not prevent transmission and spread, but the fully vaccinated appear to weather infection from the variant better than the non-vaccinated. Most all of us will have some kind of encounter with this variant. The worst part, though, is that while the percentage of people severely sickened is lower, the number of total people infected is much higher, too: a small percentage of a larger number is still pretty significant.

Given concerns for the stretched capacity of our medical system in these days, the Consistory has now voted to suspend in-person worship at least through February 6th. Hopefully, the outbreak of the Omicron variant will come to a peak point soon and will resolve as quickly as it developed.

In the meantime, we approach the future with hope and trust.

And speaking of the future, coming in March will be the start of Lent, on March 2nd—Ash Wednesday. Our worship services for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week will follow the Lectionary-based theme, "Good Enough." The themes and scriptures for upcoming services will be, as follows:

## First Notes (continued)

Ash Wednesday, March 2- "Perfectionism is impossible. Transformation isn't."

(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

First Sunday in Lent, March 6- "Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy" (Luke 4:1-13)

Second Sunday in Lent, March 13 - "So Much Is Out of Our Control" (Luke 13:31-35)

Third Sunday in Lent, March 20 - "Lots of Things Can Be Medicine" (Luke 13:1-9)

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27 - "We Often Believe We Are the Problem" (Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32)

Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 3 - "We Are Fragile" (John 12:1-8)

Palm Sunday, April 10 - "You Are a Group Project" (Luke 19:28-40)

Maundy Thursday, April 14 - "We Are Blessed, Regardless" (John 13:1-17, 31b-35)

Good Friday, April 15 - "Even Today, God Is Here and Somehow, That Is Good Enough"

(John 18:1-19:42)

Easter, April 17 - "A Good Enough Faith" (John 10:1-18)

Details of the midweek services after Ash Wednesday will be shared in next month's newsletter.

May the days ahead be uneventful ones for all of us.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert

**The Worship Team is beginning to plan for our Lenten Series:**

# Good Enough:

## Embracing the Imperfections of Life and Faith

Blessed are you who realize there is simply not enough—time, money, resources.  
Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw effort is the secret to perfection.

It's not. And you know that now.

Blessed are you that need a gentle reminder that, even now, even today,  
God is here, and somehow, that is good enough.

*- from Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection. We hope you will join us!*

***If you have a talent for seasonal decorating, please contact the church office to help with creatively setting the sanctuary with decor appropriate for the upcoming Lenten Series.***

## Special Gifts Team Update

Dear Salem family,

Our Special Gifts team met on January 13, 2022 to review the opportunities to share our blessings with our community.

The group reviewed a number of different requests for funding and chose to support the following:

The Gathering - Milwaukee is a meal program that Salem has supported with volunteer efforts in the past. During pre-COVID times we would send groups of youth and adults to their meal centers in Milwaukee to help serve food. As we have not been able to support that effort, we have made a donation of \$500 to the organization to help them manage through these difficult times.

The Sheboygan County Warming Shelter is a more local need. Supported by St. John's UCC in Sheboygan, together with a number of other local churches and groups, the Warming Shelter is a place that provides overnight warmth and food for area homeless people during the winter months. We have also supported this group with a donation of \$500 to this worthwhile local mission.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 7, and we will be providing more information in the coming months regarding our scholarship program, so please keep an eye out for that.

If you have any suggestions or local needs that you feel Salem UCC should support, please reach out to any member of our team, which includes: Faye Hughes, Kay Scheible, Cindy Conrad, Jackie Veldman, Rev. Hoppert, and myself.

Thank you, as always.

Yours in faith,

Mary Mullen  
On behalf of the Special Gifts Team





# CHILDREN'S Sunday School



Date	Event	Time
January 30	No Sunday School (Annual Congregational Mtg)	XXXX
February 6	Sunday School - on Zoom	9:45-10:45am
February 13	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
February 20	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
February 27	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
March 6	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
March 13	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
March 20	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am
March 27	Sunday School (format TBD)	9:45-10:45am

Salem's Sunday School classes moved to virtual format in mid-January. We will continue online (via Zoom) at least into early February and continue reaching out to our participants on a regular basis with updates on when, where and how we plan to meet. Children aged 4K - Grade 6 are welcome to join our weekly classes which currently meet Sunday mornings from 9:45 - 10:45am. (Note: no class on January 30). If anyone would like to learn more about our program, register new students and/or volunteer, please contact the church office or Mary Bender for more information. On behalf of Salem's Sunday School Team, I thank you for your continued prayers and support for our children and this important ministry!

Peace & Blessings,  
Mary Bender

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## Save the Date for the 2022 Annual Meeting: *Building up the Beloved Community*

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. John 13:34*

Mark your calendars now for the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Conference, to be held **June 10 to 12** at the **Green Lake Conference Center**. This year's theme, "Building up the Beloved Community," acknowledges the toll that the pandemic has taken on congregations, pastors and lay leaders. We will focus on tending to individual and congregational wellness, lifting up best practices and good strategies for fostering healthy church dynamics, and challenging ourselves to think in fresh ways about the church. For additional details and registration information, make sure to check out February's issues of Wisconsin Conference Life.

# READINGS FOR FEBRUARY



## Sunday, February 6

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)

Psalm: 138

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

## Sunday, February 13

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm: 1

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

## Sunday, February 20

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm: 37:1-11, 39-40

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

## Sunday, February 27

Transfiguration

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 34:39-35

Psalm: 99

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 9: 28-36, (37-43a)

## Grant Requests Welcome

The Endowment Committee is pleased to share that we have just shy of \$10,000 to distribute in grants this Spring.



These gifts are used to encourage Christian stewardship and enable the Church to continue and expand its mission. They can be used for existing ministries, innovative ideas, or capital improvements. A few examples of previous requests include updating technology in the sanctuary, aiding an affiliated church in Malawi, fulfilling our benevolence goals, sponsoring our members in their ministries at Back Bay Mission, and many more.

Please get creative and consider making a grant request; we would love to hear your ideas!

Applications are available in the Church Office and are due April 21. Please contact any member of the Endowment Committee with questions.

With gratitude,

Tom Daigle

Mary Mullen

Kay Scheible

Alayne Krause





## Honoring 50+ Years of Marriage

**We would like to honor all couples who have been married 50+ years. This recognition will be held on Sunday, February 13th. Please contact the church office if you would like your name listed in the bulletin.**

**"A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO NINEVEH"  
- THE MUSICAL PRODUCTION HAS BEEN  
RESCHEDULED TO JULY 15-17, 2022**



## S.C.I.O. NEWS

Bridgeway has a new mom in our program with two small children and one on the way in spring. They have been a wonderful addition and the energy of toddlers in the house is refreshing.

The Family Pathways supervised visitation program has nine families who spend 90-minutes each week in a safe and nurturing environment. Visiting parents and children otherwise would not have the opportunity to connect and share special moments together.

Bridgeway could use the following items: scrubbies/sponges for kitchen use, aluminum foil, hand soap, gift cards to Home Depot - we are in need of replacing light fixtures in our craft room.

The Winter Farmers Market will be held every first and third Saturday through April. The market runs from 9:00 a.m. - 12Noon inside the First Congregational Church UCC located at 310 Bluff Avenue. We have a wide variety of food and craft vendors.



**Mary's Room**

(920) 208-8258  
4219 Highway 42, Sheboygan, WI 53083

Services are free for anyone in Sheboygan County. Call 920-208-8258 with questions or visit them on Facebook or email [marysroomsheboygan@gmail.com](mailto:marysroomsheboygan@gmail.com)

From baby food to clothing items through size 4T, Mary's Room is filled with practically anything a new mother would need.

In addition, Mary's Room provides layettes to local hospitals for mothers in need. The bundle consists of a sleeper, blanket, booties and a children's bible—all wrapped in a hand-made quilt.



Passing along information from our Lakeland University Church Ambassador:

Lakeland University's Ulrich Center invites you to the  
**2022 FOUNDERS' DAY LECTURE**

Featuring Pardeep S. Kaleka

**Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022 • 6:30-8 p.m.**

*Lakeland University Campus, W3718 South Dr, Plymouth, Wis.  
Younger Family Campus Center, 2nd Floor Event Space*

*This free event will be held in-person and  
streamed for viewing off campus.*

## Hurt People Hurt People

### Using a Mental Health Focus to Address and Prevent Domestic and Foreign Terrorism

Extremism and terrorism have seldom been addressed nor understood from a public health lens. In my anti-hate work over past 10 years, I have come to conclusion that our country is headed in the wrong direction when it comes to both addressing and preventing domestic and foreign terrorism. My presentation will highlight what we could do to build a more resilient society against targeted violence and help those who are currently entangled in the mindset of extremism themselves. In this presentation, I will highlight the work that Parents4Peace has done in the past and is currently embarked in now, provide resources that can help families exit from hate, and speak about the need for the mental health focus to terrorism. I will also speak about why the need for Interfaith collaboration and understanding is crucial to addressing the concern of religious-based extremism.



Pardeep Kaleka is the executive director of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, a de-radicalization expert and a trauma-focused clinical therapist. As a first-generation immigrant from India, Kaleka has spent more than 20 years in the public arenas of law enforcement, education and social services. He has worked on issues of violence prevention and coalition-building across ethnic, racial and religious cultures, and has helped trauma survivors and perpetrators with recovery. As a consultant, he has developed policies and practices to help mental health workers, social service practitioners, law enforcement agents and educators build healthier, safer, more inclusive communities.

In 2012, following the hate killings at the Oak Creek Sikh Temple, he founded Serve2Unite, an organization nationally recognized for bridging school and community groups. Today, he helps families steer their loved ones away from domestic and foreign violent extremism as a clinician with Parents4Peace and works towards building faith inclusivity.

### Registration

Please register online at [Lakeland.edu/FoundersDay](https://Lakeland.edu/FoundersDay) or contact Bonnie Ziegler at [zieglerbl@lakeland.edu](mailto:zieglerbl@lakeland.edu) or 920-565-1021, ext. 2151. If you chose to view this event online, a link will be emailed to you after registering.

Please check [Lakeland.edu](https://Lakeland.edu) for weather-related cancellation notices.



Masking and social distancing required on campus.

## February Birthday Celebrations

01	Greta	Debbink
02	Lorena	McKerrow
06	Dale	Zimmermann
08	Lori	Holzer
09	Abby	Hoppert
11	Judy	Lukaszewski
12	Dale	Katsma
13	Denise	Kleinhans
14	Georgine	Littlefield
14	Dale	Vanderkin
15	Carol	Fenner
16	David	Bohrmueller
16	Andy	Hartmann

16	Scott	Miller
22	Tammy	Huenink
23	Betty	Klemme
24	Steve	Groene
24	Jered	Krueger
25	Gloria	Eldredge
26	Isaac	Feldner
27	Nancy	Bruggink
27	Joan	Petters
27	Sam	Meyer
28	Nathan	Mauk
29	Kaye	Theune

As you go through life, remember that God is always there for you. He loves you and keeps you. Wishing you a beautiful birthday filled with many blessings.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	2 6:30pm Confirmation	3 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	4	5
6 8:30am Worship (Stream) <i>Worship Team meeting afterward</i> 9:45am Sunday School (virtual) <del>10:30am Worship (InPerson)</del> 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/Al-Anon	7	8 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Consistory 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	9 6:30pm Confirmation	10 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	11	12
13 <i>Holy Communion</i> 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson)	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Salem Green Board of Directors 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	16 6:30pm Confirmation	17 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	18	19
20 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous/Al-Anon	21 <i>Presidents' Day</i> <i>Newsletter Deadline for March</i>	22 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	23 6:30pm Confirmation	24 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	25	26 <i>Newsletter Available</i>
27 <i>Transfiguration</i> 8:30am Worship (Stream) 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Worship (InPerson) 7:00 pm Alcoholics	28	<p>Church Office Hours are:  Tuesdays 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  Wednesdays 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  Fridays 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  Church Office: 920-892-7456</p>				



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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert  
CONSISTORY PRESIDENT: Paul Clarke  
TREASURER: Mary Mullen  
CUSTODIAN: Cheryl Rortvedt  
CHURCH SECRETARY: Linda Bosman & Sandy Rabe

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SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST*

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**SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
“Sharing faith, lifting up, reaching out and growing together.”

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