

MARCH 2023, VOLUME 73, NO. 3

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

Even though this is the March newsletter, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge an event that took place during the month of February: the “Night to Shine” (NTS) event that was jointly hosted by Salem and Christian Life Assembly of God back on the 10th. NTS, which is a prom event for persons with special needs, went back to a live, in-person format for the first time since 2020, and by any metric the event was a success. More guests and volunteers participated in this year's event in Plymouth (and also in the other Sheboygan County event at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Falls) than did in 2020. In a time when so many things have diminished or fallen by the wayside completely since the pandemic, this was an encouraging sign. I am thankful for all of the people who volunteered, and especially for those connected to Salem. It was a good night all the way around and I am most appreciative of everyone who was involved at any level—including those helping with the planning and preparations during the weeks leading up to the event and those who came to cheer on the “kings” and “queens” at the event. Well done!

Now on to March.

By the time this letter reaches you, we will have already started our Lenten season pilgrimage. As I wrote in last month's newsletter, I would share the details of this year's midweek Lenten activities in this edition. Our theme for this year's Lenten season will be “God is Still With Us.” Each Wednesday in March will feature a return to the soup and

sandwich meal, held from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. After the meal we will have a lesson to reflect on and various group projects to work on from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. We will conclude the evening with a vesper service of worship from 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. All activities will be held in Fellowship Hall and are designed to be multi-generational.

The themes for the Wednesdays in March will be: March 1 – "A Blind Man Is Healed;" March 8 – "Mary, Martha, and Lazarus;" March 15 – "Calming the Storm;" March 22 – "Jesus Sharing His Last Passover;" and March 29 – "Jesus in the Garden."

It is my hope that each of us will take the opportunities available to us to study and reflect in this season. May it be a time of growth and blessing.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.
Rev. Jim Hoppert



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

All are welcome!

LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPERS

As Rev. Hoppert notes above, the first Lenten simple supper will be Wednesday, March 1 beginning at 5:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome. Supper will typically include soup, sandwiches, milk, coffee and dessert (the menu may vary depending on the hosts). A free-will offering will be received and will support our OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) contribution to the Wisconsin Conference UCC.



Come and join in the food, fellowship and worship each week leading up to Holy Week. The Mar. 1 meal will feature Salem's famous chili!

One Great Hour of Sharing - March 19, 2023

It's time to share. That is the very simple theme of this year's One Great Hour of Sharing promotion.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the first of our Five for Five giving opportunities for the UCC wider ministries. This Lenten offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ.

Consider the earthquakes in Turkey, floods other disasters in the United States and other challenges our world has faced recently. And then consider how your gift to OGHS can help to create a substantial pool of money to help others caught up in these natural and man-made disasters.

Our OGHS goal for 2023 is set at \$750. Envelopes will be available in the Narthex between now and at least March 19, so please consider sharing your blessings with our wider church and this worthwhile special mission.

As we move through this Lenten season, let's consider Christ's gift to us and remember that love remains and love responds.

Thank you!

Mary Mullen

On behalf of the Generosity Team

THANK YOU FOR JOINING IN CELEBRATION OF SHEBOYGAN COUNTY NIGHT TO SHINE 2023!

It is with tremendous gratitude that Salem UCC has again been able to partner with Sheboygan County Night to Shine. Well over 700 volunteers joined in honoring 163 Kings and Queens from Sheboygan County and neighboring communities for a truly memorable night! For photos, videos and more on this fantastic event, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/NTSSheboyganCountyWI> where you will see smile after smile.

The contributions of time, talent and other resources from our church family have been overwhelming. I want to thank everyone who came to cheer, helped with cleaning, setup, decorations, ironing, putting things back into



place, spreading news of the event, offered prayers and other support, the list goes on...

I am very hopeful that Salem's participation will continue to grow as we look toward the next Night to Shine on February 9, 2024. Please watch for announcements later this year. If you have interest in becoming involved as a volunteer or would like to know more about this event, please reach out to me.

Thank you and many blessings,
Mary Bender



Faith Formation

Church School

Students continue to meet weekly at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Parents, grandparents, and guests are always welcome to join us in the classroom. Our lessons and conversations are always interesting!

Parents: if you are considering camps for your child this summer, keep in mind the camps offered by United Church Camps (UCCI), an affiliate of the UCC. There are many opportunities for students of all ages, and families, to participate at Daycholah Center in Green Lake and Moon Beach near Eagle River. There is more information in the church office.

Confirmation Classes

All Confirmation students and their mentors are welcome to attend a Confirmation Retreat on Sunday, March 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The retreat will be held at Salem. Lunch will be included.

There are no Confirmation classes during Lent, but all Confirmation students are expected to participate in the Lenten meals, study, service projects and Vesper services on Wednesday evenings.

Year 3 Confirmands are continuing to work on their personal Faith Statements, which they will be sharing with the congregation in the near future.

PLYMOUTH FOOD PANTRY "LOAD OUR SHELVES"



Thank you for your tremendous response to supporting the local food pantry with a specific item of the month. February's cereal collection was fantastic!

For March, the item we will be collecting is:
PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP

A Food Pantry bin is in the gathering area just outside the church office area. Place the items you bring in the bin and know that you are helping support this valuable local mission!



March Birthdays

1 Richard Rortvedt	10 Morgan Clarke	21 Florence Blanke
2 Louise Leverenz	17 Joshua Veldman	23 Donald Hurlburt
3 Evelyn Kretsch	17 Wiley Wolfert	24 Evan Raeder
3 Kay Mauk	18 Anne Hernandez	25 Leslie (Kleinhans) Blad
3 Stacy Bender	18 Janice Bunyea	26 Donald Laack
4 Brittany Winscher	18 Kevin Mauk	27 Abby Debbink
4 Simon Feldner	18 Marion Lehmann	28 Cody Wolfert
5 Carol McElroy	19 Linda Bosman	28 Kathy Schaap
7 Jackie Veldman		29 Carol Barts

March Wedding Anniversaries

Mar. 23 Jeff and Linda Krueger

Mar. 30 Jeff and Laurie Born

Keep these members in our prayers

Jean Halida
JoAnn Kraus
Eugene and Georgine Littlefield
Rollie and Kathy Bruggink
Florence Blanke

Tim Miller
Ron Holzmann
Eugene Boll
Andrea Kapellen
Don Hurlburt



Lectionary Readings for March

Mar. 5 – Second Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm: Psalm 121

Epistle: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Mar.12 – Third Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm: Psalm 95

Epistle: Romans 5:1-11

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Mar. 19 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm: Psalm 23

Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Mar. 26- Fifth Sunday in Lent

Hebrew Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm: Psalm 130

Epistle: Romans 8:6-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45



Volunteers Needed

The Helping Hands team is always looking for new volunteers! If you are willing to help prep/serve/clean up at funeral luncheons, or if you would be willing to make a dessert for a funeral luncheon, please let the church office know. There is also a sign-up sheet at church.



There are receptacles at Salem for used printer cartridges and for unneeded eyeglasses. Both are in the coat room near west side entrance. Please recycle these items rather than putting them in the garbage.



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, Mar. 12. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.

Endowment Committee Seeks Grant Requests

The Endowment Committee is pleased to share that we have \$8,200 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, supporting local nonprofits, 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 20. Please contact any member of the Endowment Committee with questions.

With gratitude,
Tom Daigle
Mary Mullen
Leslie Blad
Alayne Krause



Preview of Holy Week Schedule

Sun., Apr. 2 10 a.m.

Palm Sunday Worship Service

Thurs., Apr. 6 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service
with Holy Communion

Fri., Apr. 7 1:30 p.m.

Good Friday service

Sun., Apr. 9

7:30 a.m. Easter Worship Service
with Holy Communion

8:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Worship Service
with Holy Communion

Bridgeway House *News & Needs*



Three families are currently living in the Bridgeway House. Your donations and prayers are appreciated.

Please help with the following items: diapers size 4 and 5, feminine hygiene products, and laundry soap.

The Church Office will accept donations and deliver to the facility at the end of the month.

Thank you for your support.

March 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30pm Simple meal, Lenten study, service project 7:15pm Vesper Service 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4
5 9:00am Faith Formation 10 am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 9:30am-4pm Confirmation Retreat 7pm AA	6 Salem UCC's 127th Birthday 9am Men's Coffee	7 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff	8 <i>Easter Flower Orders Due to office</i> 5:30pm Simple meal, Lenten study, service project 7:15pm Vesper Service 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9	10 <i>Consistory agenda items due</i>	11 9:00am Amateur Radio Exam
12 9:00am Faith Formation 10 am Worship (Livestream and in-person) with Holy Communion 7pm AA	13 9am Men's Coffee	14 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 6:30pm Consistory	15 5:30pm Simple meal, Lenten study, service project 7:15pm Vesper Service 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	16	17	18
19 9:00am Faith Formation 10 am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm AA	20 9am Men's Coffee	21 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff 1pm Salem Green BOD	22 5:30pm Simple meal, Lenten study, service project 7:15pm Vesper Service 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	23	24 <i>Newsletter Deadline for April Chapel Chimes</i>	25
26 9:00am Faith Formation 10 am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm AA	27 9am Men's Coffee	28 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 10am Staff	29 5:30pm Simple meal, Lenten study, service project 7:15pm Vesper Service 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	30	31	



2023 Easter Plant Order Form

Orders need to be to the church office by **Wednesday, Mar. 8**. Mail in or drop off 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	Number
Single Easter Lily <i>5+ Blooms</i>	\$10.00	

(Write in number of plants you wish to order below the color.)

6" Hydrangea	\$19.50	Pink	Blue	White	
6" Azalea	\$19.50	Pink	Red	Variegated	White
6" Mum	\$11.00	Yellow	Purple	White	
6" Martha Washington Geranium	\$11.50	Pink	Purple		
6" Reiger Begonia	\$13.00	Pink	Yellow	Orange	White
6" Tulips	\$10.00	Red	Pink	Purple	Yellow
6" Hyacinth	\$10.00	Pink	Purple	White	
6" Daffodils	\$10.00	Yellow			

Total plants ordered: _____

Total amount enclosed with order: _____ Cash Check

Following worship on Easter Sunday, please plan to take your blooms home or they may be picked up during office hours the following week. Thank you.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR: Rev. James M. Hoppert
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Anne Hernandez / CHOIR DIRECTOR: Eileen Brooks
CONSISTORY PRESIDENT: Paul Clarke
TREASURER: Mary Mullen
CUSTODIAN: Shannon Mendenhall
CHURCH SECRETARY: Linda Bosman/Sandy Rabe
ORGANIST: Scott Weir

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

OFFICE HOURS: OPEN TUES 9-4; WED 9-4; FRI 9-1CLOSED MON & THURS
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