



# **First Notes**

by Rev. Jim Hoppert

By the time the month of June runs its course, half of the calendar year will have been completed. For the life and work of the church, that's a relatively busy course of events with Lent, Easter, and Eastertide falling squarely in that timeframe, not to mention the last half or so of the Christian Education schedule (and Confirmation). By comparison the second half of the calendar year has the start of the church programming year, Advent, and Christmas. Of course, during the summer months, we focus on planning and reloading for the start of the programming year, and there will be the normal course of that this year, too.

It is certainly wise to plan, but we also recognize that there are limits to our planning. The Epistle of James warns of this kind of thing in chapter 4 where he says that we should not boast or take too much stock in our plans. On the contrary, in verse 4:15 he writes, "Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that." Or, as one of my dear, departed friends was fond of saying, "We propose, God laughs."

I was reminded of that when I opened up an old template for the front page notes. The page must have been dated for September, 2019. The contents spoke of the various programming elements that would take place during the fall months and throughout the program year. It even had a reference to scheduling of the Jonah musical for July, 2020. Well, we all know what happened next: a certain viral outbreak sidelined everything the following March and none of those well-laid plans for the remainder of the year were quite the same.

So, we plan during these weeks ahead realizing that everything is contingent on the will of God. Without that none of that makes a difference.

Enjoy your summer months and don't forget to look for God wherever your journeys take you.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert

# Confirmation Class of 2023



Aubrey and Katy Fischer, Carter Pratt, Rev. Hoppert, Magnus Blad, Sam Meyer, Haylen Odekirk and Ali Pilling. (Many thanks to photographer Leslie Blad.)

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES**

Best wishes to the following graduates who were recognized on Sunday, June 4 in worship.

Lauren Bunyea, Plymouth High School, daughter of Scott and Annette Bunyea; Cassandra Pilling, Plymouth High School, daughter of Brett and Jill Pilling; Pietje Markus, Lakeshore Technical College, daughter of Wes and Cyndi Huibregtse; Olivia Huntley, college graduate from California State University - Fullerton, granddaughter of Art Pahr; Derek Braatz, Sheboygan South High School, grandson of Susie and Dale Katsma; and Liam Richards, Appleton West High School, grandson of Bonnie Bermke.

We wish you continued success in your future education, work and life adventures. Please keep in touch with your church family!

# SALEM RECOGNIZED AS A 5 FOR 5 CONGREGATON

Being a 5 for 5 church means that our congregation contributed gifts to the 5 major giving initiatives noted on the certificate. **Thank**you to everyone who faithfully supports these funds to help us meet our budgeted goals for each fund.







A new table with four chairs can be found in the Gathering Area. These items were purchased with gifts given in memory of Ansel Tupper.

We remember how much Ansel enjoyed visiting with everyone during fellowship time, so think of him if you happen to use these.



### Sunday, June 4

First Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm: Psalm 8

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

## Sunday, June 11

Second Sunday after Pentecost Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm: Psalm 33:1-12 Epistle: Romans 4:13-25

Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

# Sunday, June 18

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 18:1-15

(21:1-7)

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-2 Epistle: Romans 5:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:8

# Sunday, June 25

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Epistle: Romans 6:1b-11 Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Blessed!

to be a blessina to other



Bill and Joann Lammers were recognized for their musical contributions at the May 28th worship service.

Joann has sung in a choir since she was eight years old, first in Potter, Wisconsin and then when the family moved to Plymouth. She joined the church in 1945. She met Bill when she was in high school in Plymouth. They were married in June 1950, at the old church with Rev. Ley as the officiant. Joann taught Bill how to sing and she would play the piano.

Joann played the organ at Salem UCC for many years, along with three other organists, Harriet Perronne, Marie Miller, and Barb Pahr. Joann had a lovely soprano voice, and in addition to singing in the choir, she also sang solos for special music in worship for many years. Bill and Joann were faithful choir members, even in their retirement, they returned to sing after the winter months.

During the pandemic, when we could not gather together, the choir recorded several songs in which individual voices were recorded separately and Peter Meyer would blend the voices together for the anthem. Bill was one of the first to volunteer to participate in those recordings.

As the choir gathered back together this past fall, Bill returned to choir but found it difficult to see Joann worshiping alone in the sanctuary, so he stopped singing with the choir to worship with Joann.

The choir hosted coffee hour in honor of Bill and Joann's musical contributions over the years. Cake and coffee were served and a gift was presented.



# YOUTH SUNDAY

Sharing this note of gratitude received from member Anna Hoppert:

"This service the past week was beautiful with all the children that took part in it. I'm so thankful for the livestream service of which I listen to weekly."

# PLYMOUTH FOOD PANTRY "LOAD OUR SHELVES"



Thank you for your continuing response to supporting the local food pantry with a specific item of the month.

For June the item we will be collecting is: Peanut Butter

A Food Pantry bin is in the gathering area just outside the church office area. Please continue to help support this valuable local mission!



Summer camp means time for fun! Like, a lot of fun! Campers make new friends, have adventures, grow in confidence and independence, and feel safe to be themselves.

Daycholah Center in Green Lake offers something for all age groups.

& Me Camps offer young campers (grades K-2) a few days with an adult they love. Tenderfoot introduces young (grades 2-3) to overnight camp. DC Elements Summer Camp is an all-around adventure of summer camp with swimming, boating, target sports, campfires, camp songs, arts & crafts, and sleeping in cabins. Con, Night Owl, Sailing, Green Lake Expedition, and Fishing Camp each offer an immersive experience along with traditional camp activities.

If you've been thinking about summer camp, now is the time to register! There are scholarships available through the Northeast Association; contact the church office for more information about these scholarships.

Go to ucci.org to see all the camp/retreat options at Daycholah, Moon Beach and Cedar Valley sites.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



6/4	Alan Bosman	6/12	Kyle Lisowe	6/24	Julien Garcia
6/4	Makyla Odekirk	6/13	Melissa Odekirk	6/26	David Huibregtse
6/5	Kathy Andrews	6/14	William Bender	6/27	Mary Mullen
6/6	Darla Ardell	6/23	Michael Halle	6/27	Val Gillman
6/7	Jackie Rortvedt	6/23	Scott Raeder	6/29	Declan Krueger
6/7	Judy Miller	6/23	Toni Fuerst	6/30	Jean Halida



# **NEED A GIFT FOR FATHER'S DAY OR GRADUATION?**

Scrip cards always make a welcome gift! The church office has a wide supply of cards for area stores and restaurants to suit most any taste. And your purchase of Scrip benefits the church!

These are just some of the cards available for purchase: Pick and Save, Piggly Wiggly, Festival Foods, Home Depot, Menard's, Meijer's, Walmart, Target, Kohl's, Fleet Farm, Kwik Trip, Walgreens, Chester's, Culver's, Dairy Queen, Amazon, Bath and Body Works, Cousin's.

### CONFERENCE OFFICE TRANSITIONS TO DAYCHOLAH

Conference Minister Franz Rigert provides this update on the move of the Wisconsin Conference UCC office:

On April 12 we bid farewell to the Trost Center. After weeks of packing and preparations, Badger Brothers Movers filled a 26-foot truck, delivering most of the items to the new Conference offices located in the lower level of Spring Grove Lodge at Daycholah Center, then proceeded to First Congregational UCC in Ripon, where we have secured an additional room for storage. Already, the staff is settling in and excited about this expanded partnership with United Church Camps, Inc.

The sale of the Trost Center, for \$1.35 million, is now complete and there is a spirit of gladness that our beautiful conference home will be transformed into a holistic

health clinic, bringing wellness and hope to people for many years to come. With this transition, the Conference will complete our investment in Daycholah, providing UCCI financial stability and the promise of a multiyear reboot following the challenges of the COVID pandemic.

We expect some members of the Conference staff to be present at Daycholah each week from Tuesday through Thursday, although all of us are available by email and cellphone whether we are working remotely or on site.

For those who will attend the Annual Meeting, Sunday morning spiritual options will take place at Daycholah Center, and we will offer tours of the new office space. In this Eastertide, we celebrate a new era in our shared Conference Life.

# NOT IF BUT WHEN YOU NEED A HAND



THE TOP FIVE SURVEY RESPONSES SO FAR...

WE ASKED AND YOU RESPONDED - THE TOP FIVE OF 13
"FEELINGS AND STATES THAT ARE DISTRESSING YOU ENOUGH
THAT YOU WISH FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND HELP FOR
WAYS TO COPE." SALEM'S TOP 5 ARE ALONG THE LEFT OF THIS
PAGE. SURPRISING? NO. CAN WE HELP? YES. HOW?

### **LOCAL RESOURCES**

Generations in Plymouth offers a variety of ways to make connections. Veterans? Join the chat time on second Mondays monthly at 11 a.m. Grief? Widows and Widowers Group meets each Monday at 11 a.m. Compassion Fatigue? An abundance of wellness initiatives from memory care to tech support are available. Call 920.892.4858 for more details on any of these.

Mental Health America Lakeshore on S. Milwaukee St. in Plymouth offers these Support Groups:

- Compassionate Parents for bereaved and grieving parents
- Suicide Loss for those who have lost a loved one to suicide
- THRIVE Women Chronic Pain Support Group
- Here Comes the Sun for family members of individuals with mental illness
- Lemonade Widows' Support Group

Call 920.458.3951 for more details on these and other mental health resources.

NO MATTER WHO, NO MATTER WHAT, NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE ON THE JOURNEY OF LIFE, YOU ARE WELCOME AT SALEM AND LOVED BY THE GOD WHO MADE YOU AND KNOWS YOUR EVERY NEED.

Pastoral care is readily available by calling Rev. Hoppert at 920.838.0405.



# **June 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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4 Graduate Recognition  10am Worship (Livestream and in-person)  7pm Alcoholics Anonymous	ري د	6 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	7	8 Consistory Items Due	9 WI Conference Annual Meeting through Sunday in Green Lake	10
11 Communion  10am Worship (Livestream and in-person)  7pm Alcoholics Anonymous	12	13 Bulletin Deadline 10am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Consistory 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	14	15 6:30pm Worship Team Meeting	16	17
18 10am Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous	19 Newsletter Articles Due	20 Bulletin Deadline 10am Staff Meeting 1pm Salem Green Board 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	21	22	23	24
25 I Oam Worship (Livestream and in-person) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous	26	27 Bulletin Deadline 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Narcotics Anonymous	28	29	30	

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: Joshua Bender
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Mary Mullen
CUSTODIAN: Shannon Mendenhall
CHURCH SECRETARY: Linda Bosman/Sandy Rabe
ORGANIST: Scott Weir

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OFFICE HOURS: OPEN TUES 9-4; WED 9-4; FRI 9-1CLOSED MON & THURS Phone: (920) 892-7456 OR Email: <a href="mailto:churchoffice@salemuccplywi.org">churchoffice@salemuccplywi.org</a>.

Website: <a href="mailto:www.salemuccplywi.org">www.salemuccplywi.org</a>.

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

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