

MAY 2024, VOLUME 74, NO. 5

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

As we move through the church calendar, the month of May will bring us through the end of Easter season. Before we get to the conclusion of that season, though, we will be celebrating the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, May 5th, as we welcome a new group of confirmands into full membership in the church. We give thanks for faith journeys supported by parents and other family members, teachers, and mentors over the course of the years. This will be a day of great celebration for the church.

Next on the docket will come the celebration of Pentecost—the birthday of the church of Jesus Christ—on May 19th. Our worship that day will feature a celebration of Holy Communion and the music of both our church school children and the Chancel Choir. The story of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and the birth of church on that day will give us a sense of our mission and purpose in the world as witnesses to God's good news.

Before I end this page, I wanted to share with you some details on my upcoming sabbatical leave. As some (but not likely most of you) may know, I am taking a sabbatical during the month of June. My previous sabbatical consisted of two month's leave in 2017 and focused on the writing of the Jonah musical; this goal of this year's leave will be the writing of two choral anthems. During my leave, the church office will forward pastoral emergencies to area clergy who will be covering my calls. If you have need for a pastoral call during that time,

please contact the church office and they will pass the information on to the pastor on call that week. We have also lined up some excellent supply preaching during the month of June, so I know that worship will be in very competent hands during that time.

More details may follow in next month's newsletter.

Until that time, may the remaining days of the Easter season bring you peace and joy.

Shalom aleichem—Peace be with you.

Rev. Jim Hoppert



Upcoming Events

Confirmation: May 5

Join us on May 5 as we celebrate the Rite of Confirmation for four of Salem's youth at the 10 a.m. service. Please plan to attend and support Lilly Fontany, Jaiden Krueger, Makyla Odekirk, Lena Schoenefeld, their families and mentors in this important part of their faith journey. A reception will follow the service and you are invited to celebrate with the confirmands and their families.

Graduate Recognition: June 2

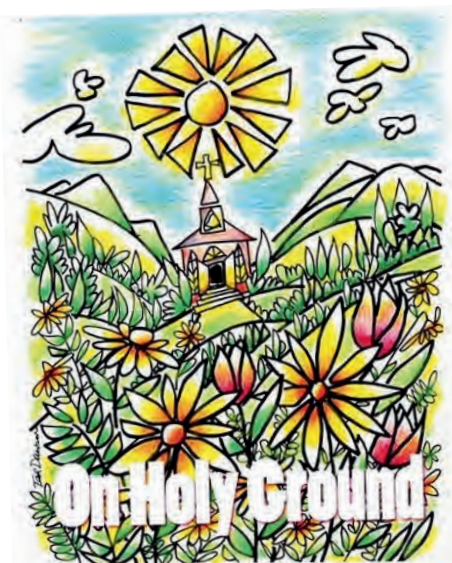
We will recognize members of the congregation who may be graduating from high school, college, tech school or grad school on Sunday, June 2. Please contact the church office by May 24 if you are graduating or have a family member graduating so that we may be sure to honor them during the service. We would like to know their high school, their plans for the future, and to have a photo, please.

Pentecost: May 19

The church school youth will finish their year by singing during Pentecost worship, as will the Chancel Choir. We will also celebrate Holy Communion.

We'll be taking a special offering for the Strengthen the Church Offering, one of the 5-for-5 offerings we take each year. Special envelopes are available in the narthex.

After worship, the Salem Cares group will hold a cupcake sale. Four-packs of decorated cupcakes will be available for a donation.



Strengthen the Church Offering: May 19



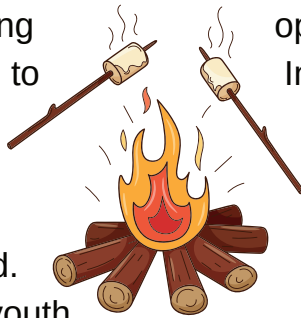
**Church office hours are now:
Tuesdays and Wednesdays,
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day.**

As always, if you have a pastoral emergency during non-business hours, please call the office and leave a message. Voice messages are checked routinely.

Many summer camp opportunities at UCCI camps

If you are making plans for camping this summer, you are encouraged to check out the opportunities at Moon Beach in St. Germain, Daycholah Center in Green Lake and Cedar Valley near West Bend.

There are a variety of camps for youth of all ages and families. These sites are



operated by United Church Camps, Inc., part of the Wisconsin Conference UCC. Financial assistance to attend these camps is available through the Northeast Association of the UCC. For more information, check out the UCCI website at ucci.org.



**This thank you goes out to everyone who helped with the Lent Simple Suppers. Thanks to the Worship Team who set up Fellowship Hall for worship and for craft stations. We got to send out Easter baskets to shut-ins and other members again this year. Thank you to all the people who supplied soup or a meal, desserts, beverages, sandwich makings or gave money for food. Thank you for the tireless people who helped with set up and clean up. Especially thank you to you, the people who came and joined us every week for fun, food and fellowship. We had a very successful Wednesday Lent Supper program. Thank you again. Joyfully,
Cyndi Huibregtse**

Thank you also to all who came to the Easter breakfast and contributed to the meal or helped clean up after. It was great fellowship time!

***Gratefully,
Paul, Susan, Cassie and Morgan Clarke***

May Lectionary Readings

May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

Epistle: 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 15:9-17



May 19 Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Epistle: Romans 8:22-27

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 12 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

Epistle: 1 John 5:9-13

Gospel: John 17:6-19

May 26 Trinity Sunday

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Epistle: Romans 8:12-17

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Property Team Spring Update

If you can participate on the Property Team please contact the church office. We would like to involve more people in the process, both to accomplish tasks and share information on our facilities and ideas for care and maintenance beyond just addressing problems that may arise.

Yardwork – The yard is in good shape for spring. Thanks to Ron Schoenfeld and Cyndi Huibregtse and their helpers, the yard is basically clean and ready for mowing. The beds around the church building and entrances could use mulching, but this will be coordinated at a later date. To save expense the mulch can either be donated, or free mulch from the city (dependent on quality and

availability) could be used. Mowing has been done by Kay Scheible and Faye Hughes in the past. Additional volunteers would allow dividing the schedule so keeping up will be easier for all involved.

Buildings – Ed Ardell has coordinated work on the boilers, lighting upgrades to save on electricity consumption inside the church and monitoring water drainage from the roof in the past several years. We experienced some leaks in the storeroom off the chancel this past winter which will have to be addressed now that the snow and freeze cycles are over.

**Salem will be collecting
CEREAL
to help the
Plymouth Food Pantry
in May.**





MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5/4 Robert Metze
- 5/6 Haylen Odekirk
- 5/8 Cheryl Rortvedt
- 5/9 Bonnie Laack
- 5/12 Larry Zwerg
- 5/12 Lyle Theune
- 5/16 Karen Raeder
- 5/20 Tom Miller
- 5/22 Ron Schoenfeld
- 5/24 Ethan Feldner
- 5/27 Alayne Krause
- 5/27 Ben Meinnert
- 5/27 Carol Bournoville
- 5/29 Elsa Blad
- 5/30 Jayna Flunker

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/7 John & Judith Meerstein
- 5/16 Todd & Julaine Thiel
- 5/19 Brett & Jill Pilling
- 5/20 Ryan & Shyanne Halle
- 5/25 Steven & Betty Davenport



*Keeping these
church family
members in our
thoughts and
prayers*

**Marian Lisowe
Eugene Boll
Mariann Picard
Tim Miller
Margaret Johnston**

**Rollie Bruggink
Georgine Littlefield
Carole Hummell
Dolores Bohrmueller
Bob Metze
Evie Meinnert**



Scrip Cards Available in the Church Office

Spring brings a variety of special occasions that often call for a gift. Consider a Scrip card for these special days. The church office has a wide variety of cards in various denominations for area restaurants and stores. And if you know in advance you would like a special card we don't have, just let us know and we will do our best to order it for you.

DID YOU KNOW?

Single-use plastics have become one of the most urgent environmental threats. These are too often buried in landfills or dumped untreated in our precious water sources. Cigarette butts (whose filters contain tiny plastic fibers), food wrappers, plastic bottles, plastic bottle caps, plastic grocery bags, plastic straws and plastic stirrers are among the most common pollutants. These plastics can take anywhere from 20 to 500 years to decompose, depending on the material's structure and environmental factors such as sun exposure.



Microplastics (any plastics under 5 millimeters in length or roughly the size of a pencil eraser) end up not just in the ocean and other water sources but also on farmland, raising concerns over our food supply and our wellbeing. **Some studies estimate that the total mass of microplastic particles consumed by adults corresponds to 50 plastic bags per year or one credit card per week.**

The chemicals in these plastics have been linked to a variety of issues, including reproductive harm and obesity, organ problems, and developmental delays in children. Ingesting these plastics causes cell damage, which could lead to inflammation and allergic reactions, and once consumed, removing microplastics from your body is not an easy process. These health impacts are felt disproportionately by people of color and low-income communities, where exposure rates tend to be higher at each phase of the plastic life cycle.

What can you do? Two ways to help are reducing your use of single-use plastics (bottled water, straws, cutlery, plates, plastic wrap) and picking up plastic refuse on your walks.

SCIO News

Our families keep growing at Bridgeway! To that end we are in need of diapers (size 4), napkins, and vinyl, flannel-backed tablecloths, size 60in x 102in in groups of three.

Last year Healthy Sheboygan County's research pulled five priority areas to the top: 1) Positive Mental Health, 2) Responsible Substance Use, 3) Activity & Nutrition, 4) Access to Affordable Housing, and 5) Access to Affordable, High-Quality Child Care. These are the areas that Sheboygan County's Community Health Improvement Plan will focus on over the next couple of years. There have been two meetings so far to develop the strategic direction of the work moving forward; however, there are still two more meetings to go, May 13 and June 10 from 2-4 p.m. If you would like to be part of this initial planning for any of the priority areas above, consider joining these next two meetings. You can register to join the planning meetings in May and June at healthysheboygancounty.org.

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00pm Endowment Team meeting 6:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4
5 9:00am Church School 10:00am Worship with Rite of Confirmation and Holy Communion 7pm AA	6 9:00am Men's Coffee	7 <i>Items due for Bulletin</i> 10:30am Staff	8 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	9	10 <i>Items due for Council meeting</i>	11
12 9:00am Church School 10:00am Worship 7pm AA	13 9:00am Men's Coffee 9:00am Women's Coffee 6:00pm Personnel Meetings	14 <i>Items due for Bulletin</i> 10:30am Staff 6:30pm Council	15 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	16	17	18 3:30pm Hoskms:Mauk Wedding
19 Pentecost 9:00am Church School 10:00am Worship with church youth singing and Holy Communion 7pm AA	20 <i>Items due for Chapel Chimes</i> 9:00am Men's Coffee 9:00am Salem Cares	21 <i>Items due for Bulletin</i> 10:30am Staff 12:00pm Salem Green Board Luncheon 6:30 pm Radio Exams	22	23	24 5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal	25
26 10:00am Worship 7pm AA	27	28 <i>Items due for Bulletin</i> 10:30am Staff	29	30 6:00pm Personnel meetings	31	

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

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

OFFICE HOURS: OPEN TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY 9-4 CLOSED MON, THURS & FRI
Phone: (920) 892-7456 OR Email: churchoffice@salemuccplywi.org
Website: www.salemuccplywi.org

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

MAY 2024
VOLUME 74 No. 5