



# **First Notes**

by Rev. Jim Hoppert

Sometimes, life throws a monkey wrench into our best laid plans. Coming back from sabbatical leave, I was optimistic that getting back into the swing of things was going to relatively easy. However, son John's hospitalization in early July put some things on the back burner. Combine that with a vacation in August for a family wedding, and the summer has seemed to go by quickly. That said, we are coming to the start of a new program year pretty quickly.

We will start things out on Sunday, September 8th when our church school gathers back to meet for the first time since May, and when we will have a church picnic following a worship service with Communion. My old home church used to refer to an event like this as a "Rally Sunday," but perhaps it more resembles a family reunion than anything else. Due to summer schedules and the like, we've been like ships passing in the night, and haven't seen much of each other. Worshipping and breaking bread together will give us a much-needed chance to catch up.

From that point on, we hit the ground running and the weeks ahead will pass swiftly.

In the meantime, I hope that the remaining days of what there is of "functional" summer in these part will offer some rest and recreation to you and those you love.

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

# New program year begins Sept. 8 with these activities

#### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

Church School begins **September 8** at 9 a.m. Registration forms are available by contacting the church office.

#### CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes for students in Years 1-3 will begin on **Wednesday**, **September 11** from 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Completed forms (registration and covenant) should be returned to Mary Bender or the church office by Sunday, Sept. 1.

#### CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS

The Chancel Choir, under the direction of Eileen Brooks, resumes its rehearsal schedule on **Wednesday, September 4** at 7 p.m. New members are warmly invited; just come to the first rehearsal, or direct any questions you may have to Eileen.

#### WOMEN'S COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

We'll resume our Coffee and Conversation for women of Salem on **Monday, Sept. 9** at 9 a.m. We meet the first Monday of the month for an hour of lively conversation about a variety of topics. Coffee and tea are available or you may BYO morning beverage.

#### SOCIAL HOUR AFTER WORSHIP

*Salem Cares* will resume offering coffee hour on the first Sunday of every month, immediately following worship. Everyone is welcome to join us on **Sunday, October 6** for refreshments.



# Salem Church Family Picnic

**Sunday, Sept. 8** immediately following worship

Join us for food, fellowship and fun!

A picnic lunch of brats, hamburgers, German potato salad, beans, salads, desserts and beverages will be served.

Games for all ages will be available, including Bingo, cornhole, ball toss and more!

No charge to attend; a free-will offering will be received

# Add your voice to the choir



The Chancel Choir will begin their rehearsals for this program year at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 4 in the sanctuary of the church.

The first meeting will be a time for us to reconnect, remember, rejoice and rehearse.

The Chancel Choir rehearses every Wednesday evening from 7-8 p.m. Anyone of Confirmation age and older with a desire to sing is welcome.

# Endowment and scholarship applications due early October

Do you have an idea for how Salem can "be the church" within or beyond our four walls? That idea might be eligible for financial support through a grant from Salem's Endowment Fund. Grant requests for funding of mission and ministry related activities are due to the church office by October 3.

The Special Gifts team will also meet in October to review scholarship applications. Any Salem member currently taking classes at a higher learning institution may complete an application for consideration. The scholarships are worth \$500 per semester and are renewable.

Applications are due by Oct. 14.

Request forms for funding are available through the church office. Questions may be directed to the church office.

#### PLYMOUTH FOOD PANTRY

The September collection for the Plymouth Food Pantry is

# **CEREAL**

A collection bin is just outside the church office.

The Food Pantry greatly appreciates your continuing generosity and support for their work!

#### Seeking items for "Off the Wall" sale

As part of the Craft and Vendor Fair in November, Salem Cares will hold an "Off the Wall" sale. This will feature the sale of pictures, wall hangings, posters, frames and other decorative wall art. If you have items of this kind that you no longer wish to display in your home and would like to donate for the sale, they may be brought to the church office during open hours. Please bring only items that are in good condition and suitable for hanging on a wall.

#### **Pastor Parish Relationship Committee**

Members of the PPR committee met in August and, as part of their meeting, held a brief review of the committee's responsibilities.

Goals: The goal of the committee is to promote healthy relationships between the pastor and the congregation, by fostering the pastor's professional growth and well-being while promoting their mutual ministry with the congregation.

**Accountability:** The PPR committee is established as a separate standing committee accountable only to the congregation and not the council. The committee will report to the congregation via the church newsletter regarding meeting highlights. Confidential information is NOT to be shared in Committee reports. (Goals and accountability statements taken from Salem's PPR Comm. Bylaws and Guidelines June 2003).

#### **How the Committee's Role Supports the Congregation and Pastor:**

Advocating: The PPR advocates for the pastor and helps to interpret his/her roles and ministries.

Sharing ideas: The PPR helps the pastor and congregation share their hopes, dreams, and interpretations of the church's mission. **Providing support: The PPR acts as a support** group for the pastor's leadership, and provides a framework for dealing with conflict creatively.

The PPR committee meets quarterly. Check for updates in the Chapel Chimes. Please feel free to reach out to committee members Leslie Blad, Maureen Greuel and Bob Schuricht with questions and concerns.

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Greuel, PPR Committee member

# September Lectionary

#### Sunday, September 1

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm: Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 Epistle: James 1:17-27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

#### Sunday, September 8

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Psalm: 125

Epistle: James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

Gospel: Mark 7, 24-37

#### Sunday, September 15

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Hebrew Scripture: Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm: Psalm 19

Epistle: James 3:1-12 Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

#### Sunday, September 22

Eighteenth 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 29

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Hebrew Scripture: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10;

9:20-22 Psalm: 124

Epistle: James 5:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50



#### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

1st Eugene Boll
2nd Hattie Wykhuis
2nd Kevin Andrews
3rd Magnus Blad
5th Jeff Greuel
6th Brady Pratt
6th Janet Veleke
6th Robert Becher

7th Joanne Lammers
10th Robert Plahmer
11th Anna Hoppert
12th Jay Ellis
14th Lucia Blad
15th Chris Huenink
16th Jennifer Schoenefeld

16th Larry Huenink 19th Mary Bender 20th Gladys Palm 20th Lindsey Zorn 20th Roger Rortvedt 20th Warren Faas 26th Delores Titel

### **SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

5th Ken & Kay Mauk

6th Al & Linda Bosman

9th Jered & Ashley Krueger

10th Randy & Laurie Gutschow

10th David & Amy Nischik

12th Kevin & Kathleen Andrews

18th Dave & Carol Barts

22nd Tyler & Lauren Chisholm

25th Paul & Susan Clarke

27th Roger & Jacqueline Rortvedt

27th William & Rachel Schwantes

28th Jim & Val Gillman

30th Peter & Marsha Meyer

## YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



Marian Lisowe
Eugene Boll
Mariann Picard
Tim Miller
Bob Metze
Bill Lammers

Rollie Bruggink
Georgine Littlefield
Margaret Johnston
Carole Hummell
Evie Meinnert

Salem UCC will be hosting a Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, Nov. 2. We anticipate having between 20 and 30 crafters and vendors located in the Gathering area and church school rooms. As a fundraiser for a yet-to-bedetermined church need, the Salem Cares ministry is going to be selling handmade gift tags and gift jars at the fair.

To create the gift tags, we are asking for help from Salem



members. On Monday, Sept. 16 we will hold a simple lunch and a craft workshop to assemble the tags. Lunch will start at 11:30 a.m. and will include soup, crackers, cheese and dessert. After lunch, the workshop will involve simple cutting, gluing and tying strings on tags. We anticipate 'crafting' for about an hour or so. If you are interested in helping with this project, sign-up sheets are in the narthex or you may call the church office. Please sign up by Sept. 9 so we may plan accordingly for lunch.

# **VOTE FOR HOPE**

In 2023, the United Church of Christ launched a campaign calling for action at the federal level of government to address the overlapping crises of climate and inequality. Through the Climate Hope Cards campaign, churches across the country collected 8,000 postcards that were delivered to the Environmental Protection Agency as part of an effort to save thousands of lives, address societal inequities, and get our nation on track to meet its climate goals.

In 2024, the UCC is building upon the success of this effort with a new campaign called <u>Vote for Climate</u>

<u>Hope.</u> Between now and November 1, UCC churches are encouraged to take the *Climate Hope Voter Pledge--*



and make a commitment to "vote as an act of hope for present and future generations." Those who pledge to vote will receive a confirmation email with helpful voter information, a one-time reminder of their pledge to vote in the week before the election, and a chance to win one of ten Vote for Climate Hope tumblers featuring the artwork from our 2024 Climate Hope Art Contest for children and youth. If interested in making this pledge, please contact the church office.

| $\overline{}$ |  |
|---------------|--|
| S             |  |
|               |  |
| Ñ             |  |
| er            |  |
| چ             |  |
| Ξ             |  |
| <u>=</u>      |  |
| Ħ             |  |
| e             |  |
| CÔ.           |  |

| September 2024                          | er 2024                                        |                                   |                                             |     |                                            |     |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------|-----|
| Sun                                     | Mon                                            | Tue                               | Wed                                         | Thu | Fri                                        | Sat |
| 1                                       | 2                                              | 3<br>Items due for Bulletin       | 4                                           | 2   | 6<br>Items due for Council                 | 7   |
| 10:00am Worship                         |                                                | 10:30am Staff                     |                                             |     | meeting                                    |     |
| 7pm AA                                  |                                                |                                   | 7:00pm Chancel Choir                        |     |                                            |     |
| 9:00am Church School                    | 9 Items due for Bulletin                       | 10                                | 11                                          | 12  | 13                                         | 41  |
| 10:00am Worship w/                      |                                                | 10:30am Staff                     |                                             |     |                                            |     |
| Communion<br>11:30am Church Picnic      | 9:00am Men's Coffee<br>9:00am Women's Coffee   | 6:30pm Council                    | 6:15pm Confirmation<br>7:00pm Chancel Choir |     |                                            |     |
| 7pm AA                                  |                                                |                                   | Rehearsal                                   |     |                                            |     |
| 15                                      | 16<br>Items due for Bulletin and 10:30am Staff | 17<br>10:30am Staff               | 18                                          | 19  | 20                                         | 21  |
| 9:00am Church School<br>10:00am Worship | Chapel Chimes<br>9:00am Men's Coffee           | 1:00pm Salem Green<br>ROD meaning | 6:15pm Confirmation                         |     |                                            |     |
| 7рт АА                                  | 11:30am Soup Lunch and<br>Craft Workshop       | 6:30pm Radio Exams                | 7:00pm Chancel Choir<br>Rehearsal           |     |                                            |     |
| 22                                      | 23<br>Items due for Bulletin                   | 24                                | 25                                          | 26  | 27                                         | 28  |
| 9:00am Church School<br>10:00am Worship | 9:00am Men's Coffee                            | 10:30am Staff                     | 6:15pm Confirmation                         |     |                                            |     |
| 7pm AA                                  |                                                |                                   | Coupm Chancel Chour<br>Rehearsal            |     |                                            |     |
| 29                                      | 30<br>Items due for Bulletin                   |                                   |                                             |     | Neighbors in Need<br>special offering will |     |
| 9:00am Church School                    | 0.00 M 5. C                                    |                                   |                                             |     | be received during<br>worship on Sun.,     |     |
| 10:00am worsnip                         | 9:00am Salem Cares                             |                                   |                                             |     | Oct 6. Envelopes                           |     |
| 7pm AA                                  |                                                |                                   |                                             |     | are available in the narthex.              |     |

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 Bender
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
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."

September 2024 VOLUME 74 No. 9