



MESSENGER

Connecting Salem UMC since 1949

September 2016

Salem United Methodist Church 25130 85TH ST. SALEM, WI

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Reaching Out With God's Love and Grace



Welcome Back to Sunday School

School is starting again – Sunday School that is!! Plan to be here on Sunday, September 11th at 10:45 a.m. as we “kick off” another exciting year of Christian Education at Salem UMC. Let your friends and neighbors know that we have classes for all ages and all are welcome. See you on the 11th!!

You Are Invited to Join Our Music Ministry

All are welcome to join our choirs...Wednesday is practice night with Praise Power meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Chancel Choir meeting at 7:30 p.m. (starting September 7). Hand Bells practice on Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. (starting September 8 – please note new practice night) You are invited to join one, two or all three!



Confirmation Class



Confirmation

Confirmation Classes for 7th & 8th Grade Students will begin in October (watch for further details) Do you want to join the Confirmation Class? Are you interested in mentoring one of our confirmation students? Talk to Pastor Keith.



Membership Classes

Interested in Becoming a Member of Salem UMC? Membership classes will start on Sunday, September 25th following worship service. Want more information? Talk to Pastor Keith.



Of Bullfrogs and Buzz Kills

In September, you're going to be hearing Old Testament readings from Jeremiah every week. We all know that Jeremiah was a bullfrog, but he was also an Old Testament prophet and—let's face it—kind of a buzz kill. He was called to begin his prophetic ministry in the 7th Century BC, and the focus of his ministry would be to tell the people of Judea why the Babylonian hammer was about to fall. (Short answer: they had fallen away from the proper worship of Yahweh, and started to adopt other local religions, including building altars and even sacrificing to other gods.)

And, indeed, in 587 BC, about forty years after Jeremiah began calling the rulers and people of Judea to task, the Babylonians *did* conquer Jerusalem, and in so doing they destroyed the First Temple (aka Solomon's Temple), and forcibly deported many upper and ruling class citizens of Judea and Jerusalem to Babylon. This was known as the Babylonian Captivity, and was a formative event in the history of the Jewish people.

Tempting as it might be to write this off as (literally) ancient history, there are lessons to be learned from Jeremiah, and the chief one is this: nations are at their weakest when they weaken themselves...and turning away from their responsibilities to God is a sure way to do that. In Jeremiah's time, the signs were obvious—people stopped offering sacrifices to Yahweh, and started building altars to make sacrifices to other, false, gods. A succession of kings (five during Jeremiah's ministry) ruled with little interest in following God's word.

In times like ours, the signs can be more subtle. People stop worshipping God, and start putting their faith in other things—like money, or power. They stop being concerned about others, and start focusing on what's best for themselves. Their focus changes from the world around them, to the world inside of them. We don't have to look too hard at the world around us, or dig too much into the news, to see evidence of this today. Nor do we need a lot of imagination to see what the end result might be.

Jeremiah is kind of a gloomy read, particularly when you know just how right he was, and he's even gloomier when you can start to see parallels between his world and ours. But he has a place in the narrative flow of the Bible, and he has a place in the story of our faith—because we know his is not the final chapter. As the church year starts to wind down, and we can see Advent on the horizon if we squint real hard and look in the right place, it's appropriate to remind ourselves of the darkness before the dawn—of the consequences of human failings, and the coming of divine grace.

And it's also a good time to remember the power of a single voice, like Jeremiah's. In the face of injustice, or bigotry, or any of the thousand ways that humanity finds to turn its back on God, we are called to speak out, to tell the truth, and to show grace. In this election year when tensions are running high, emotions are running hot, and so much seems to be going wrong around us, we can be the voice of a better way...

But only if we speak out, and only if we speak of the truth and love of God.

Pastor Keith

The Salem UMC All Committee Meeting night will be held on Sunday, September 18th (note change of time & day) with All Committees meeting at 6:00 p.m. followed by Church Council at 7:00 p.m.

The Church Office



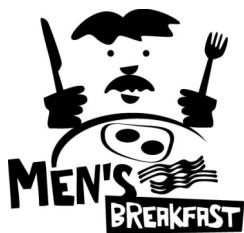
Will Be Closed:

In observance of Labor Day, the Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th



Shalom Center Soup Kitchen

Salem UMC has the privilege of serving at the Shalom Center Soup Kitchen on Thursday, September 29th. We make soup, enough sandwiches for everyone to take home after dinner and serve a hot meal provided by the Shalom Center to as many as 125 people or even more sometimes. The whole process takes about 2 1/2 hours sometime between 2:00 and 5:30 p.m. (depending on which you choose - soup or sandwiches or serving). There is no cleanup. The center handles that. That is a very tiny gift of your time to provide so much for so many. We also donate money to the Soup Kitchen for milk – just mark your contribution “MILK” and drop it in the collection plate. If you would like to help make an “Impact on Your Community” on September 29th sign up on the sheet found on the information board in the fellowship area – or call the church office at 843-2525 to get your name on the list.



Men's Breakfast on September 18

The Men in our Congregation are Invited to a Men's Breakfast on Sunday, September 18th at 8:00 a.m. in the downstairs fellowship Hall. Come and start your morning with some good food and fellowship. Questions? Contact Tom Reilly, Ken Bevry, Corbin Bevry or Rick Carlberg.

Westosha Community Senior Fellowship Time

Wednesday, September 7th at 10:00 a.m.

A Program on “Guatemala” by Ann Bradshaw & Jim Lura

Free Bingo and prizes.

Located at Wilmot United Methodist Church fellowship hall

(11425 Fox River Road)

Call 862-6366 for more info

(Co-sponsored by Living Waters Ministries)



Noisy Offering

On the second Sunday of the month our kids take a Noisy Offering, collecting coins for that month's Pennies for Mission designation. This month's Noisy Offering will be on Sunday, September 11th. The money collected will go for the Kenosha Literacy Council.

Impact Community 8,000 Hour Challenge

The challenge is to do 8,000 hours of community service by the end of the year. Fill out your Impact Community slips and drop it in the collection plate or return to the church office. As of 8/28/16 we have totaled 4,403 hours of service to our community. We are a little past the halfway goal – can we reach our goal by the end of the year???



Thank You to everyone who helped make Vacation Bible School 2016 a success!



September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

(If yours is missing it means we don't have your birthday/anniversary information in our membership program. Contact Jane Smith at 843-2525 or jsmith.sumc@wi.rr.com to get added to the list)

Celebrating a Birthday

- 11 – Cole Andrekus
- 19- Lauren Bostanche
- 20 – Tim Lasco, Lisa Schatzka
- 21 – Annette Meints
- 24- Joanna Carlberg, Travis Verhaalen
- 27- Brienna Bostanche

Celebrating an Anniversary

- 3 – Ragnar & Kim Ouwerkerk
- 12 – David & Sandra Baird
- 20 – Mark & Debbie Andrekus, Bill & Rose Knigge

The “Messenger” Deadline is always the 15th of the month—please have all articles to the church office or send by email to jsmith.sumc@wi.rr.com The deadline for the October newsletter will be on Thursday, September 15.

Please Pray for the Following South East District Churches and Clergy:

Sep 5-11: Oak Creek: Community, their pastor Wendee Nitz, their 313 members, Community is located at 8675 S 13th. St., Oak Creek, WI 53154, occumc.org

Sep.:12-18: Oconomowoc: Good Shepherd, their pastor Daniel Fahs, their 204 members, Good Shepherd is located at 800 Lake Dr., Oconomowoc, WI 53066, oconomowocchurch.com

Sep.: 19-25: Orfordville: New Horizon, their pastor Gail Ray, their 105 members, New Horizon is located at 1726 S. Murphy Rd., Orfordville, WI 53576, newhorizonumc.net

Sep.: 26-Oct. 2: Palmyra and Pleasant Valley: their pastor Tsuker Yang, Palmyra 144 members and Pleasant Valley 27 members, Palmyra is located at 122 N. 5th St., Palmyra, WI 53156

Liturgists for September

- September 4: Hazel Crowder
- September 11: Chris Holmstrom
- September 18: Debbie Gilliam
- September 25: Annette Meints



Contact Joanna Carlberg if you would like to read the scriptures on Sunday morning.

Greeting Cards Needed

Each week Our Caring Ministry sends cards to those on the prayer concern list. Do you have extra cards you could donate? Needed are get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Salem UMC's Website

Have you visited our SUMC website, Salemflamesofgrace.com? It is packed with information and awaiting your input! This is YOUR website. Visit often and let us know what you think. If you have information you'd like to see posted on the site such as committee updates and events, pictures of church events, or for your comments or corrections, please let Sandy Kay Jacoby know at skjacoby6@gmail.com or Joanna Carlberg at jcarlberg@wi.rr.com.

Prayer Corner

During the month of August we have been praying for:

- Dan Vidas
- Family of Wayne Larsen
- Diana Duncan
- Rose Knigge
- Janis Marks
- Dallas Rigdon
- Judith Leswig
- Robert Planka
- Family of Carol Grulich
- Liz Ayres
- Karen S.
- Larry Stevens
- Layla
- Family of Dick Cooper
- Sherri Skoog
- Kathy Baum
- John Kessler
- Mallory Iverson
- Barbara Marsh
- Family of Tracy Kendall





Lay Speaking Opportunities offered

Advanced Lay Servant Class on Public Prayer

Praying in public is a skill that many people today are uncomfortable with. While this class is an advanced lay servant class, it is open to ANYONE who wants to learn more about praying publicly who wants a safe place to practice praying out loud in a group. October 7th (6 – 9:30 PM) and October 8th (9 AM – 4 PM) with lunch provided. There is significant pre-work required because of the condensed nature of this class. Please sign up early enough to give yourself enough time to prepare. **Final deadline to sign up is September 26th.** Leaders: Kelly Jahn and Ron Kral. Location: Watertown Christ UMC. Text to be used: *Let the Whole Church Say Amen!* By Laurence Hull Stookey. Cost: \$35 (includes book and lunch) – Send a check payable to Johnson Creek United Methodist Church (P.O. Box 173 / Johnson Creek, WI 53038) with your name / contact information / home church / any food allergies or needs. Contact: Kelly Jahn – 920-342-3599 or email questions to JCUMCPastor@gmail.com

Basic Lay Servant

Recommended for anyone in a position of leadership within the church, not just for those who want to preach. November 11th (6 – 9:30 PM) and November 12th (9 AM – 4 PM) with lunch provided. Leaders: Kelly Jahn and Ron Kral. Location: Watertown Christ UMC. Text to be used: *Lay Servant Ministries* by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson. Cost: \$35 (includes book and lunch) – Send a check payable to Johnson Creek United Methodist Church (P.O. Box 173 / Johnson Creek, WI 53038) with your name / contact information / home church / any food allergies or needs. **Deadline to sign up: October 31st**. Contact: Kelly Jahn – 920-342-3599 or email questions to JCUMCPastor@gmail.com

On Life's Terms: Mothers in Recovery

Tuesday, September 27 – Free
6:00 p.m. Resource Fair
6:30 p.m. screening and Q & A

Hope Council on Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse will present *On Life's Terms: Mothers in Recovery*. This film interweaves five mother's three-year journey to self-sufficiency and new found pride with drug laws that impact mother and child and will inspire hope for recovery. This documentary film will reduce the stigma by addressing the large issues that treatment works and family preservation is prevention, breaking the cycle of addiction, abuse, and poverty.

–Learn about community resources – Screen the new documentary by Sheila Ganz *On Life's Terms: Mothers in Recovery* to learn about the specific needs of mothers seeking treatment for substance use disorders
- Learn from experts in the field of domestic abuse prevention at Women and Children's Horizons and substance abuse treatment at Women of Worth

Gateway Technical College, 3520 30th Ave, Kenosha, Bioscience Bldg. Rm 120. RSVP by Tues. Sept. 20: call 262-658-8166 or via email at info@hopecouncil.org

Lead Removal Grants Available

The Kenosha/Racine Lead-Free Communities Partnership is a federally funded grant program that seeks to reduce lead hazards within homes built before 1978. Owner occupied or rental homes are welcome to apply. Homes with children under the age of 6, pregnant women and residential daycare facilities are given priority. Lead poisoning, even at low levels can lead to learning and behavioral problems – especially for children under the age of 6. If you have any questions or would like more information about this opportunity, please call 262-605-6783.

From the Finance Committee

All expenses that need to be reimbursed by the church need to be turned in to the church treasurer within 30 day of occurrence. Funds request forms can be found in the treasurer's mailbox outside the workroom office or on the back counter of the workroom office.



September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Al-Anon @ 7 pm Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	3
4 Worship @ 9:30 am	5 Labor Day Office closed	6 Boy Scouts @ 7 pm	7 AA: 6-8 pm Praise Power @ 6:30 pm Choir @ 7:30 pm	8 Hand Bells @ 6:30 p.m.	9 Al-Anon @ 7 pm Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	10
11 Worship @ 9:30 am Sunday School @ 10:45 am	12 4-H @ 6:30 pm	13 Boy Scouts @ 7 pm	14 AA: 6-8 pm Praise Power @ 6:30 pm Choir @ 7:30 pm	15 Hand Bells @ 6:30 p.m. Messenger Deadline	16 Al-Anon @ 7 pm Big Book (AA) @ 8 pm	17
18 Men's Breakfast @ 8 am Worship @ 9:30 am Sunday School @ 10:45 am Guide Team Meeting following worship All Committees @ 6 pm Church Council 7 pm	19	20 Boy Scouts @ 7 pm	21 AA: 6-8 pm Praise Power @ 6:30 pm Choir @ 7:30 pm	22 Hand Bells @ 6:30 p.m.	23 Al-Anon @ 7 pm Big Book (AA) @ 8pm	24
25 Worship @ 9:30 am Sunday School @ 10:45 am Membership Class following worship	26	27	28 AA: 6-8 pm Praise Power @ 6:30 pm Choir @ 7:30 pm	29 Shalom Center Soup Kitchen Hand Bells @ 6:30 p.m.	30 Al-Anon @ 7 pm Big Book (AA) @ 8pm	



Pennies for Mission

Pennies for Mission is our ongoing project where all of the coins in the collection plate each month are given to a special mission. Since 1989 we have sent over \$34,000 to special missions. We are now “traveling” toward our 39th mile of pennies!

July Pennies: School Supplies through The Sharing Center (\$61.65)

August Pennies: AID for Africa's Children (\$ 40.11)

September Pennies: The Kenosha Literacy Council

SCRIP - When you buy you donate to the Church's Ministries

Buy your SCRIP cards to use for your every day purchases for food, gas, drugstore items , etc. - when you use a SCRIP card for your purchases a percentage of the card will benefit the church. See Mindy Smouse after church or contact her at 857-2066 or e-mail msgmgs@gmail.com. The following SCRIP gift cards are on hand at church and available for your immediate purchase: **BP Shell - Speedway – Marathon-Kwik Trip -Starbucks- Burger King- Chili's- Cousin's Subs- Culvers- Panera Chipotle- Cracker Barrel- Red Robin- Subway- IHOP- Taco Bell - Texas Road House- Dunkin Donuts- Noodle & Company Pizza Hut -Bristol 45 Diner - Olive Garden – Buffalo Wild Wings -Lakeside Sentry- Meijer Gordon Food Service – Woodmans - Kohl's- Target- Menard's- JC Penney- Walmart – Walgreens - Bath & Body Works- Tinseltown Cinemark**
Total for 2016: \$1,030.26

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

EFT allows you to keep making contributions even when you are not able to attend a Sunday service. You can designate how your funds are allocated within the church's books (for General and/or Capital funds). There are no bank fees for you to pay and there is complete accountability of your giving. EFT is “green”... you do not write a check, but instead electronically transfer monies into the church bank account. Please consider signing up for this service. Forms for signing up for EFT can be found on the table in the entry area.

Keith Hewitt , Pastor

Telephone: Church (262) 843-2525

Pastor's cell: (262) 308-2437

E-mail: salemumc@wi.rr.com pastorkhewitt@gmail.com jsmith.sumc@wi.rr.com

Website: salemflamesofgrace.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12: 00 noon Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Pastor's Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon Wednesday

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School @ 10:45 a.m. (Sept.—May)